

American Spirit

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023

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OF RENOWNED
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GILBERT STUART**

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PATRIOTS WORE**

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All That Sparkles

With the President General

PAMELA WRIGHT

Thank You for Sparkling at the 132nd Continental Congress

I was thrilled to welcome so many of you back to our National Headquarters to *Celebrate the Stars and Stripes Forever!* at our 132nd Continental Congress. Whether you joined in person or online, every-

one truly sparkled. If you missed any of the official sessions—or just want to relive them again!—you can access them online at www.youtube.com/@DARCongressOnline/streams. I want to express heartfelt thanks to David Rencher and his team at FamilySearch for introducing cousins to each other during

Congress and the month of July. As of this writing, a total of 6,020 people participated, with total connections of 6.1 million and an average relative count of 2,356.

I hope you are marking your calendars and making plans to attend the 133rd Continental Congress, **June 26–30, 2024**. I can't wait to welcome so many of my DAR friends (and cousins, it appears!) back to our House Beautiful!



Honoring 2023 Americanism Medal Recipient Tetiana Mouzi

I was deeply honored to present the DAR Americanism Medal to Tetiana Mouzi at the 132nd Continental Congress. Tetiana, a onetime refugee from Ukraine and now a U.S. citizen, has committed her life to helping Ukrainian immigrants find refuge and forge new lives in America. You can read more about Tetiana, her journey to America and her work on page 8.



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What the Patriots Wore

During the American Revolution, the Patriots had to fight in whatever clothes they owned, making them look

ragtag compared with the Redcoats.

George Washington recognized the need for standardized uniforms and adopted the hunting shirt as the first standard for the Continental Army. Read more about how the Patriots' uniforms evolved throughout the war on page 4.



Hot Springs National Park: A Unique Blend of Urban Charm and Natural Healing

Hot Springs National Park, an urban oasis steeped in history and natural wonder, is a truly remarkable national park. Learn more about its healing thermal springs, the rise and fall of its famed bathhouses, and the ongoing efforts to preserve its rich past. Learn more on page 28.

Take Me Home, Country Roads

The West Virginia State Conference was the first conference I drove to, and I thoroughly enjoyed traversing those country roads and taking in the state's natural beauty. I know you will enjoy learning more about the history and sites in the state that John Denver referred to as "almost heaven" in his classic song "Take Me Home, Country Roads." Turn to page 36 to read.



Mary Wood's Chocolate Guinness Stout Cake

I just know you are going to love the rich and fudgy delight of Mary Wood's Chocolate Guinness Stout Cake—topped with Baileys Cream Cheese Frosting. This cake, inspired by Mary's Irish heritage, is a truly decadent autumn dessert. Find the recipe on page 42.



Georgia O'Keeffe: Painting the Spirit of the Southwest

Our American Artisans story explores the life and art of Georgia O'Keeffe, a visionary painter whose love for the American Southwest inspired many of her iconic works. Read more about her on page 12.



Discover the Birthplace and Legacy of Gilbert Stuart

The Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum, an authentically restored house in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, is where the renowned American portrait artist Gilbert Stuart was born. The museum showcases period antiques and reproductions of Stuart's portraits. It offers visitors the opportunity to explore the woodland trails, an herb garden and a millpond while learning about the conservation efforts for river herring and American eels on the site. Read more on page 32.



On the cover:
Glade Creek Grist Mill in
Babcock State Park, Clifftop,
West Virginia

DAVID SUCCY/GETTY IMAGES

What the Patriots Wore

Revolutionary Uniforms Were Far From Uniform By Emily McMackin Dye



At the outbreak of the Revolution, Americans brought an abundance of passion, grit and purpose to the fight ahead, but they lacked uniforms. Most Patriots who fought in the earliest battles at Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill, and Boston wore civilian clothes. Compared with the flashy Redcoats they were pitted against, the soldiers appeared ragtag and anything but uniform.

"The British and other Europeans such as the French and the Spanish, who would later become involved in the war, had a developed economy of uniform production that ran like a well-oiled machine," said Neal Hurst, associate curator of costume and textiles for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. "The Americans had to start from scratch."

While a few independent uniform makers existed and militia units in affluent cities such as New York, Philadelphia and Charleston provided uniforms for their troops, most soldiers faced the enemy in the clothes they would wear in the fields or to work. The usual mix of these clothes consisted of tightly fitted coats, waistcoats and breeches for men in New England regiments and hunting shirts for those in the southernmost colonies.

Clothing the Army

When George Washington took command of the Continental Army in July 1775, he recognized the disparity in how his men were clothed and adopted the hunting shirt as the standard uniform for the Army. The long, loose-fitting linen shirts split open down the front with a fringed collar were easy to move around in and versatile for all seasons.

"No Dress can be had cheaper, nor more convenient, as the Wearer may be cool in warm weather and warm in cool weather by putting on under-Cloaths," Washington wrote in a general order in July 1776. He also believed the shirts—traditionally worn by riflemen on the frontier—had a psychological impact, creating "no small terror to the enemy, who think every such person a complete marksman."

Most New Englanders had never seen a hunting shirt before, prompting Washington to send patterns to at least two governors so they could mass-produce the shirts for their colonies' regiments. With Americans still heavily dependent on England for its textile supply, fabric was difficult to obtain, particularly the harder-wearing woolens necessary for winter.

"There was some domestic textile production, but it couldn't keep up," Hurst said. "The Army just gobbled up so much material."

During the Siege of Boston in 1775–1776, locals sewed thousands of "bounty coats" for the Massachusetts line charged with guarding the city. "Essentially, these were cheap ... workman's jackets made out of drab linen cloth," Hurst said.

The harsh winter of 1777–1778 at Valley Forge exposed the inadequacy of the Continental Army's uniforms. Several crushing defeats culminating in the capture of Philadelphia physically



Rifleman from General Daniel Morgan's troops wearing a hunting shirt

and emotionally depleted the Patriots. As Washington wrote: "You might have tracked the army ... to Valley Forge by the blood of their feet." Their clothing and shoes were worn out, offering little protection from the camp's incessant rain, frigid cold and dank conditions. Ultimately Washington convinced the Continental Congress of the need for more support, but it took America's alliance with France, formalized in February 1778, for the situation to change for the better.

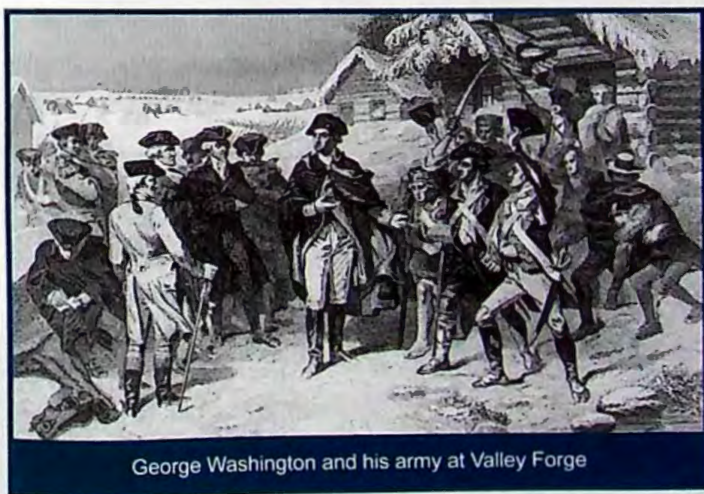
Acquiring Regimental Uniforms

Unlike today's soldiers, who wear muted colors and camouflage to evade the enemy, 18th-century soldiers typically wore flashy uniforms with colored facings on the collar, cuff and lapels so that they were visible when fighting at close range in tight formations on the open battlefield. The colors helped officers identify their men in the heat and smoke of the battlefield and enabled soldiers to differentiate between friend and foe.

Initially, Congress designated brown as the official uniform color for the Continental Army. Still, because of shortages in brown cloth, many regiments wore blue or gray coats, if they had coats at all. When Washington addressed the Second Continental Congress in May 1775, he wore a blue coat with buff facings—colors traditionally worn by Whigs opposed to royal tyranny.

The British were known for their red or scarlet uniforms, embellished with colored facings indicating their regiment and rank, lace-trimmed buttonholes, and buttons bearing their regimental number. Loyalist units, such as the Queen's Rangers and the British Legion, wore green uniforms provided by the British.

Once France began providing financial and military support to the Colonies, the Continental Army could finally standardize its uniforms. Benjamin Franklin and other diplomats negotiated for a shipment of 40,000 dark blue and brown uniforms with red facings, delivered in September 1778. By October 1779, the supply of uniforms had improved enough for Washington to establish uniform regulations for regiments based on their region: blue coats faced with white for New England; blue coats faced with a buff for New York and New Jersey; blue coats faced with red for Mid-Atlantic colonies (Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia); and blue coats faced with blue for Southern colonies (North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia).



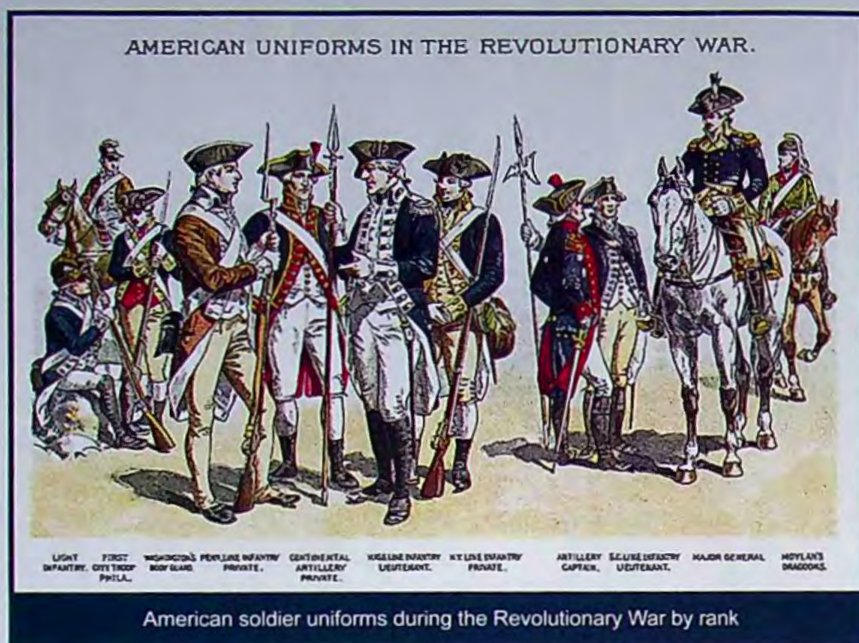
George Washington and his army at Valley Forge

Washington likely established the regulations to boost the esprit de corps of his men and improve the identification of different regiments on the battlefield. Regimental uniforms also made tracking down Army deserters easier. "Desertion ads in the newspapers during that time often described what regimental uniforms soldiers were wearing," Hurst said.

"Americans also got into making regimental buttons. There were buttons with specific insignia on them ... and by 1777, you start to see the introduction of USA buttons on regimental coats."

Under their regimental uniforms, soldiers typically wore a linen shirt, a vest-like waistcoat made of linen or wool, and a black leather or horsehair neck stock. Early in the war, they often wore linen or wool breeches that gathered at the knee with stockings worn below. But by the late 1770s, many regiments had switched to trouser-length overalls to help soldiers better navigate the rocky, unpredictable American terrain. Another staple of the Patriot uniform was the tricorne or cocked hat, a black felt hat folded and pinned on one or three sides and often bound with wool tape around the edges of the brim. White tape represented foot soldiers, while yellow tape signified the artillery. Soldiers also wore round hats to shield themselves from the sun and wool caps to stay warm in the winter.

Officers were distinguished by the higher quality of fabrics they wore in their uniforms, Hurst said. Some carried iron or brass swords; many wore brightly colored sashes and gold lace epaulets. They might also have gold or silver tape around their buttonholes or pocket flaps, along with a cockade,



or a knot of ribbons, on their hat fashioned with different colors to indicate rank. After 1778, officers wore cockades with black and white ribbons to symbolize the French alliance with America. Even with these adornments, the uniforms of American officers were fairly plain and not nearly as ostentatious as their European counterparts, Hurst said.

Uniform Variations

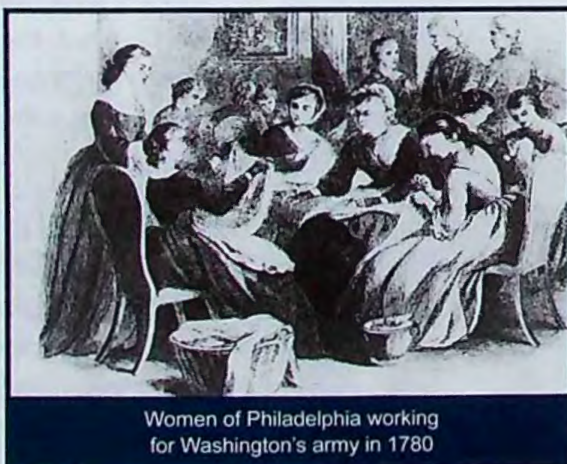
Patriot uniforms

continued to evolve as the war drew to a close. In 1782, Washington designated dark blue coats with red facings as the new standard uniform for all troops except generals and staff officers. Infantry uniforms were designed with white metal buttons and artillery uniforms with yellow metal buttons.

But even with those standards in place, there was plenty of variation among units due to money and material shortages throughout the war. Colonial militias bore the brunt of responsibility for clothing soldiers—and some had more resources than others.

"Supply was a constant struggle," Hurst said. "Some colors were easier to get than others. And as fast as the uniforms were being produced, the soldiers were wearing them out just as quickly."

The supply issues may be why so few Revolutionary War uniforms exist today. Museums, including the Maryland Center for History and Culture, the Charleston Museum and the Smithsonian's Museum of American History, have a few officer uniforms, with little else being recovered or preserved. "There are bits and pieces of things, but as far as we know, no enlisted man's uniform has survived," Hurst said.



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/ By Jeff Walter /



A Most Valuable CITIZEN

*2023 Americanism Medal recipient
Tetiana Mouzi helps her fellow
Ukrainian refugees forge new lives in
the land she calls home.*

Tetiana Mouzi, a former refugee from Ukraine, knows how it feels to be a stranger in a foreign land. She has dedicated herself to sparing others the agony of going through that experience alone.

After nearly a quarter-century as a U.S. citizen, Mouzi has long been at home in this land. Her ongoing efforts to help today's Ukrainian refugees forge new lives in the United States led to her receiving the latest National DAR Americanism Medal. She accepted the honor from President General Pamela Edwards Rouse Wright on June 28, during the opening night ceremony of the 132nd Continental Congress. In the audience were Mouzi's husband, Yuriy Safronov; two of their sons; and a former co-worker and longtime friend, Georgann Griffin, whom she calls her "American mom." Her daughter watched from her college campus on the livestream.

In her acceptance speech, Mouzi, who lives in the St. Louis suburb of Ballwin, Missouri, thanked DAR and the Olde Towne Fenton DAR Chapter of the Missouri State Society, which nominated her. She also quoted from the Emma Lazarus inscription at the base of the Statue of Liberty, then emphasized times when "what it means to be American brightly shines through." She noted that these moments have included the nation's response to the Japanese assault on Pearl Harbor and the 9/11 attacks.

"When Russia began a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the situation turned very dire for many Ukrainian families," she said. "I knew it was my duty as an American Ukrainian to help those families secure their future and assist them whatever way

GETTY IMAGES; NSDAR

"I knew it was my duty as an American Ukrainian to help those families secure their future and assist them whatever way I could. ... Standing up to tyranny is a grand American tradition."

TETIANA MOUZI

I could. ... Standing up to tyranny is a grand American tradition, and it requires vigilance and persistent dedication every single day."

Building a New Life

In her previous life, Mouzi could only dream of freedom—religious and political. Her grandparents had been exiled to Siberia but returned to Ukraine before she was born. As a member of Ukraine's Catholic minority, she learned early on the importance of keeping her faith private. "When we lived under communism, our religion was not allowed," she said during a phone interview two days before receiving her medal.

Mouzi met her husband-to-be at Lviv Polytechnic National University in Ukraine, where she earned a master's degree in chemistry. They were both student activists who participated in a hunger strike in the capital of Kyiv in 1990, advocating for the resignation of Vitaliy Masol, then chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Ukrainian SSR, among other goals. When a friend told Safronov that the American Embassy was granting refugee status to individuals from certain countries, he applied and was approved.

With the sponsorship of a Catholic Charities agency, the embassy designated Safronov for immigration to St. Louis. He arrived in 1993, and Mouzi followed in 1994. The couple had been dating for two years and made immediate wedding plans. Five or six years after arriving, Mouzi became a U.S. citizen.

It was an exciting time for the freshly naturalized immigrant. "First of all, I love the country," Mouzi said. "Second of all, you can freely do whatever you can do. That was not the case in the Soviet Union. We had already started building a community here, so I was really looking forward to being a citizen and being able to vote and express what I believe."

Although they originally thought they might be happier settling somewhere with a larger Ukrainian-speaking population,



President General Pamela Edwards Rouse Wright greets Americanism Medal recipient Tetiana Mouzi at the 132nd Continental Congress in June 2023.

such as New York City or Chicago, visiting those cities convinced them that Missouri was home. "We did not choose St. Louis," Mouzi said, "but God chose for us."

Helping Others Build a New Life

Years before Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, Mouzi and Safronov began welcoming newcomers from their home country. "People in St. Louis call our house the Safronov Hotel because we host so many families," Mouzi said. Families would stay for various durations—three, four, six months or even a year—until they could support themselves. Since becoming U.S. citizens, the couple has sponsored more than 30 individuals for citizenship, Mrs. Wright said.

When the war began, they advocated for congressional action to assist fleeing Ukrainians. In April 2022, the Biden administration announced Uniting for Ukraine, a program that allows refugees to stay in the U.S. for at least two years if sponsored by a local family. Mouzi and Safronov immediately filed the paperwork and have since sponsored six families, hosting up to five guests at a time. All now have jobs and support themselves.

"Sometimes it's quite lonely when you come to a new country and don't know anyone, to live separately," she said. "This is how we felt when we came to this country. We don't want

people running from the war to feel the same: that they come to a new country but don't know the language, the city, how to survive."

 Sponsors can assist relocated refugees in various ways:

- > Providing housing and food
- > Enrolling them in classes to learn English
- > Helping with resume writing and accompanying them to job interviews
- > Providing transportation
- > Serving as a translator in hospitals and other medical settings
- > Hosting fundraisers and other community and cultural events
- > Teaching them how to drive or taking them to driving school so they can get their license, then helping them buy a car

"It's kind of like babysitting in the beginning," said Mouzi, who has done all the above. "It's step by step for them to start feeling that they can live in this country and be a valuable citizen."

The refugee experience can be challenging for children. Mouzi shared a story about the 7-year-old daughter of one of the families staying with her and her husband. During a gathering at their Ukrainian Catholic church, with adults socializing and children playing, Mouzi pushed the button on a coffee grinder. Upon hearing the noise, the young girl began shaking and crying, telling her mother they needed to crawl under their chairs because the siren was sounding. "It breaks our heart to understand how much stress the kids are going through," Mouzi said.

'What America Is Built On'

For the past six years, Mouzi has worked as a senior research scientist at Pfizer, a pharmaceutical company. While working to ensure that medicine labels are accurate—that, for example, a pill that purports to contain 5 milligrams of acetaminophen contains no more and no less—she remains committed to continuing her endeavors on the immigration front.

"I am really honored and thankful for the DAR community and for the people to realize and support my cause. Whatever I'm doing, I do not think I'm doing a lot. But to see other people supporting me, it gives me hope that this is what America is built on: helping each other, growing together and making peace in the world." 🌍

Awards Recognize Outstanding Contributions to America

DAR annually presents two prestigious awards to American citizens for outstanding contributions to the nation. The Americanism Medal is awarded to naturalized citizens, while the DAR Medal of Honor is awarded to native-born American citizens.

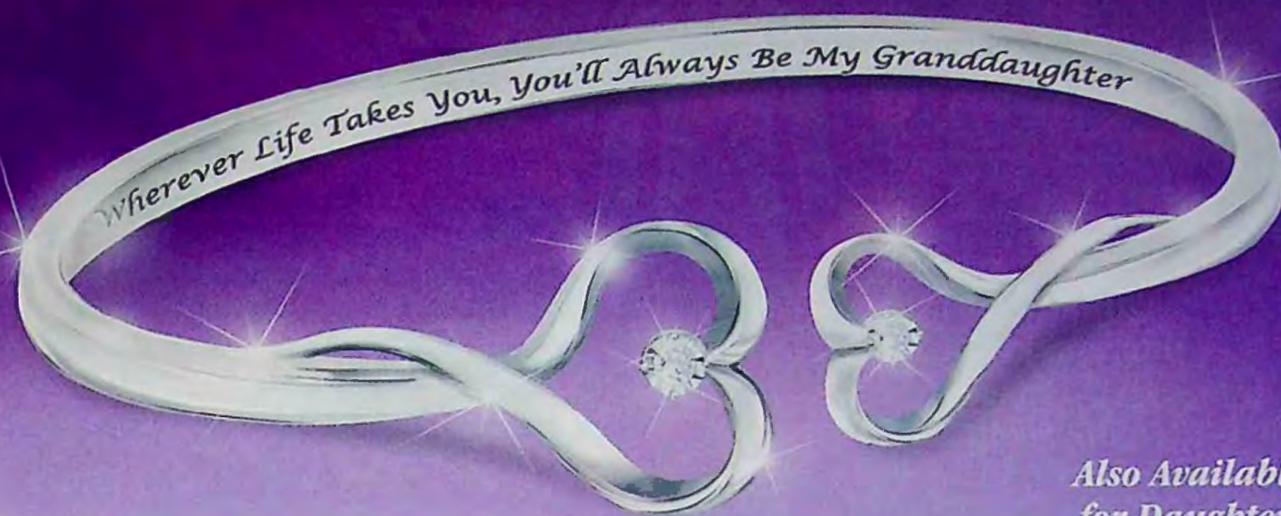
"The DAR Americanism Medal is awarded to an adult man or woman who has been a naturalized United States citizen for at least five years and has fulfilled the required qualifications following naturalization," the award guidelines state. "DAR Americanism Medal recipients must have shown outstanding qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism. They must have actively assisted other aliens to become American citizens or displayed outstanding ability in community affairs, preferably with emphasis on the foreign-born community."

DAR chapters are eligible to nominate individuals in their local areas for the award. The process is "elaborate," said Yvonne Liser, National Chair of the Americanism Committee, which reviews the nominations. Chapters must submit letters of citizenship, recommendations, biographies and other materials to make a compelling case that their nominee is worthy of the distinction.

There is no limit to the number of Americanism Medals or DAR Medals of Honor that can be awarded in a given year.

At her discretion, the President General may honor an award recipient at the national level during Continental Congress, which was the case this year with Tetiana Mouzi. In 2022, DAR honored current U.S. Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro, a native of Havana, Cuba, who immigrated to the U.S. with his family as refugees in 1962.

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'For What the World Gives to Me'
Georgia O'Keeffe's Modernist
Depictions of New Mexico

/ By Elizabeth Mariano Mubarek /



Music, Pink and Blue No. 2. 1918. Oil on canvas. Overall: 35 x 29 15/16in. (88.9 x 76 cm).
Gift of Emily Fisher Landau in honor of Tom Armstrong. Inv. N.: 91.90

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The distinctive painting style of Georgia O'Keeffe has influenced generations. She made a lasting mark on the art world with her unique ability to capture nature, particularly the American Southwest, through her own lens.

Born November 15, 1887, in a modest farmhouse near Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, O'Keeffe was the second of seven children and the eldest daughter. Her parents took note of her artistic talents from a young age. Both of her grandmothers had also dabbled in art, and when O'Keeffe was 12 years old, she and two of her sisters received painting lessons from a local

"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way—things I had no words for."

amateur painter. Although unaware of any professional female artists at the time, O'Keeffe soon articulated her ambition of becoming one.

After graduating from high school, O'Keeffe studied at the Art Institute of Chicago. However, her education was interrupted when she contracted typhoid fever, a potentially fatal disease that required a year off from school to recuperate. During her recovery, O'Keeffe continued painting. Instead of returning to Chicago, she traveled to New York City, where she exposed herself to modern and avant-garde works by taking art classes and visiting galleries and studios.

During this period, O'Keeffe met Alfred Stieglitz, a successful international photographer and studio owner, who, at age 52 and 24 years her senior, introduced her to the works of modern European and American artists. Fascinated by Stieglitz and eager to earn his favor and approval, the 28-year-old O'Keeffe aspired to establish herself as an artist.

Facing financial troubles, O'Keeffe moved back to Chicago in 1908 to work as a freelance artist. Eventually, she moved back in with her family in Virginia. In 1912, O'Keeffe attended an art class taught by renowned artist Alon Bement at the University of Virginia. Bement encouraged his students to experiment with their art and create their own visual compositions and abstract works rather than copying other artists' styles. O'Keeffe found this approach particularly powerful.

O'Keeffe soon took a job as an art teacher in the public schools of Amarillo, Texas, continuing to work with Bement during the summers until 1916. Her time in Texas was particularly significant, offering her a first taste of the power and allure of the arid American West.

In 1916, O'Keeffe sent a roll of some of her abstract charcoal drawings to a friend in New York, who promptly took



Georgia O'Keeffe photographed by Carl Van Vechten, 1950.

them to Stieglitz's gallery. Impressed by her work, Stieglitz exhibited some of these drawings, leading to her first solo show in April 1917. Within a year, O'Keeffe had moved back to New York, and by 1924, Stieglitz had divorced his wife and married O'Keeffe, formalizing their intimate and passionate romance.

The Allure of the West

O'Keeffe, who had briefly passed through New Mexico in 1917, made her first true visit in 1929, when she traveled to

Taos to stay with friends who were part of an artist enclave. By all accounts, she immediately fell in love with the natural beauty of the brightly colored terrain, its unique flora and fauna, local architecture, and Navajo culture. The hills, the cliffs, the desert and the trees all made her feel at home and filled with creative energy in what others might perceive as a dry, arid environment.

For years, O'Keeffe would return to New Mexico in the summers to paint and draw, producing some of her most well-known pieces during these visits, such as "Black Cross, New Mexico," painted in 1929, and "Chama River, Ghost Ranch, New Mexico (Blue River)," completed in 1937.

In the 1940s, O'Keeffe purchased two homes in New Mexico: one at Ghost Ranch just north of Abiquiú and another in

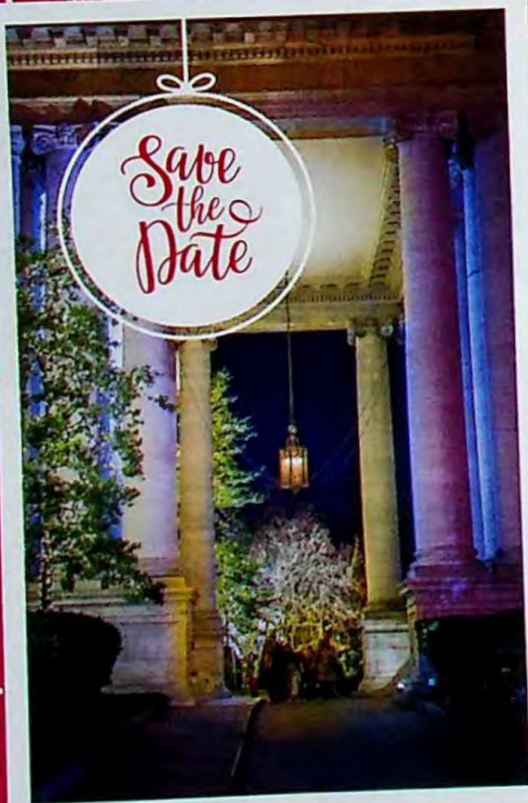


"Jimson Weed, 1936"; oil on linen

Abiquiú itself. The small town of Abiquiú embodied the stark and seemingly inhospitable desert landscape of north-west Santa Fe. For centuries, the region had been inhabited by few other than native people, and O'Keeffe found this aspect particularly endearing, refreshing and inspiring.

Forthright, outspoken and unwilling to bend to societal expectations of women, O'Keeffe spent springs and summers in New Mexico away from her husband, splitting her time between Ghost Ranch and New York with Stieglitz.

In 1949, three years after her husband's death at age 82 from a stroke, O'Keeffe made New Mexico her permanent residence. Her artwork flourished here, often depicting abstract views of geographic landscapes and topographical features through her unique lens. O'Keeffe allowed her surroundings'



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surreal landscapes to influence her life and her art, and Ghost Ranch became her refuge.

As O'Keeffe aged, she began to lose her eyesight to macular degeneration. Her last unassisted painting was completed in 1972, though she continued to produce art with the help of assistants, never losing her creative vision or desires.

Georgia O'Keeffe died March 6, 1986, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, at age 98, leaving behind a legacy of artistic bravery in her uniquely modernist technique. At her request, her body was cremated, and her ashes were scattered on Pederal Mountain in New Mexico. She continued painting until just a few weeks before her death.

Visit Ghost Ranch Today

According to the New Mexico Tourism Department, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, primarily based in Santa Fe, opened in the summer of 1997 and is the only museum in the world dedicated to an American female artist. The museum houses 1,149 of O'Keeffe's works spanning decades, including paintings, drawings and sculptures, preserving and displaying her art year-round. Special exhibitions are also offered, sometimes featuring other modernist artists.

Surrounded by the stunning landscapes that O'Keeffe immortalized in her paintings, her home at Ghost Ranch has been conserved and now exists as part of the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. Visitors can make a trip to the tiny, private town of Abiquiú to pay homage to the artist and see firsthand many of the iconic vistas she so distinctively encapsulated in her works of art.

The 21,000-acre Ghost Ranch stands today as a tribute to an innovative, pioneering artist known to many as the "mother of modernism." 🌿

"My painting is what I have to give back to the world for what the world gives to me."

— GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

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Go Ape With SurveyMonkey



By Jeff Walter

DAR takes surveys seriously. The National Society regularly uses the SurveyMonkey app to gather information, ideas and opinions from members. Uses include:

- Conducting a post-Continental Congress survey each July
- Gathering feedback on the DAR Website
- Collecting information on DAR lesson plans for teachers
- Running a "Tell Us Your DAR Story!" survey

DAR encourages its chapters and state societies to harness this resource. SurveyMonkey's feedback-gathering capabilities can enhance chapter events and activities. Create personalized surveys for your chapter using various fonts, colors, logos, styles and custom URLs. The artificial intelligence-based SurveyMonkey Genius eases survey creation.

'It Is Easy to Use'

Sarah O'Donnell, Corresponding Secretary of the Delaware State Society DAR and Honorary Regent of the Cooch's Bridge DAR Chapter, Newark, Delaware, has used SurveyMonkey for years, professionally and for DAR. She turned to SurveyMonkey to collect opinions and information from chapter members when she was Regent of Cooch's Bridge DAR Chapter.

"I love SurveyMonkey because it is easy to use," Mrs. O'Donnell said, and highlighted several other attributes:

- An array of question types with skip logic
- Tracking of email responses and response rate
- Downloadable results for statistical analysis and presentation
- Graphical results to show comparisons and trends

Types of Plans

SurveyMonkey offers multiple plans. Each offers an unlimited number of surveys; the ability to receive responses by web, social media or email; pop-up online surveys; mobile apps for iOS and Android; and 24/7 email support.

INDIVIDUAL PLANS

- **Basic (free):** Up to 10 questions per survey, viewing of 10 responses and three "collectors"—ways to send your survey and collect responses—per survey. Collector types include web links, email invitations, social media and text messages.

- **Standard Monthly (\$99 per month):** Unlimited questions per survey, up to 1,000 responses per month and up to three collectors per survey. To cancel your subscription to this plan, visit your account settings and cancel auto-renew, which is the default.
- **Starter Annual (\$25 per month, billed at \$300 per year):** Unlimited questions, up to 2,500 responses per year and unlimited collectors.
- **Advantage Annual (\$39 per month, billed at \$468 per year):** Unlimited questions, up to 15,000 responses per year and unlimited collectors.
- **Premier Annual (\$119 per month, billed at \$1,428 per year):** Unlimited questions, up to 40,000 responses per year and unlimited collectors.

TEAM PLANS

- **Team Advantage (\$25 per user per month, starting at three users, billed annually):** This plan offers the ability to build surveys and analyze results together, as well as shared templates, themes and library.
- **Team Premier (\$75 per user per month, starting at three users, billed annually):** In addition to the benefits of Team Advantage, this plan offers phone support, click map data visualization, multilingual surveys, advanced survey logic, block randomization and a custom question bank.

Mrs. O'Donnell appreciates SurveyMonkey's ease of use but says the cost can be a downside. "The Basic plan for free only permits 10 questions and 10 responses. That isn't much use," she said. "To avoid an expensive bill, our Cooch's Bridge DAR Chapter survey was written and agreed upon before the purchase of SurveyMonkey. We purchased the \$99-a-month plan and completed the survey process through data collection/final download within one to two months" before canceling the subscription.

To reach its 75% response rate goal, the group sent several email reminders and other communications after the initial responses—which tend to generate "the very happy or very unhappy opinions," Mrs. O'Donnell said. "We want the middle folks, too." 🐼

For a detailed comparison of features and pricing, visit www.surveymonkey.com/pricing/individual/details.



Have You Heard? It's a great time to do a gift annuity!

Higher gift annuity rates mean more income for you!

The American Council on Gift Annuities approved an increase in recommended charitable gift annuity rates effective January 1, 2023.

Benefits of establishing a gift annuity:

- **Obtain relief from taxes.** You receive a charitable deduction, and each payment you receive is partly tax-free for your life expectancy unless funded through a qualified charitable distribution.
- Enjoy the security of **higher income payments** for life.
- Complete this simple arrangement through the mail.

New! Recent legislation created a new funding opportunity:

- If you are over 70½, you can now transfer up to \$50,000 from your IRA to fund a gift annuity.
- This transfer can be made in only one tax year.



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The information contained herein is offered for general informational and educational purposes. You should seek the advice of an attorney for applicability to your own situation. Daughters of the American Revolution does not currently offer charitable gift annuities in all states. Call for more information.

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Recovering a Real National Treasure: A True Crime Saga

Twenty years ago, North Carolina recovered its original copy of the Bill of Rights, stolen near the end of the Civil War.

By Jeff Walter



The Bill of Rights has a special place in the hearts of history-loving North Carolinians. After all, without their state's involvement, it likely would never have existed.

The fact that North Carolina possesses its original copy of the U.S. Constitution's first 10 amendments is a testament to a concerted 21st-century effort. Stolen near the end of the Civil War, the historical treasure did not return to the state until 2003.

During the 123rd State Conference of the North Carolina State Society DAR this past April, North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby related the real-life saga—including his role in its gripping climax 20 years ago. The story, which has drawn comparisons to a nonfiction *National Treasure*, involves a Union soldier, antique collectors, lawyers, governors of two states, and a sting operation involving the FBI and a \$4 million cashier's check.

Protections Against Government Abuse

Creation of the supreme law of the

land took considerable debate, dissent and compromise between Federalists, who sought a strong federal government, and Antifederalists, who feared that unchecked powers threatened personal freedoms.

The Constitution, drafted during the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, became the young nation's official government framework on June 21, 1788, when New Hampshire became the ninth of the original 13 states to ratify it. But North Carolina refused to ratify the Constitution without a Bill of Rights limiting federal powers, particularly regarding taxation, the appointment of officials and the court system.

James Madison drafted 12 amendments, 10 of which would end up in the Bill of Rights on September 25, 1789. There were 14 copies of the original document: one for the federal government; one for each of the 11 states that had ratified the Constitution; and one for each that had not, North Carolina and Rhode Island. After North Carolina received the proposal, it ratified the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

A Stolen Document and Failed Negotiations

In spring 1865, as the Civil War wound to a close, a Union soldier stole North Carolina's copy of the Bill of Rights from the capitol building amid the chaos in Raleigh. After taking it home to Tippecanoe, Ohio, he sold it to Charles Shotwell, an Indiana businessman, for \$5.

In the late 1870s, North Carolina's secretary of state heard that the document was in Indianapolis and unsuccessfully sought its return. In 1897, North Carolina Secretary of State Cyrus Thompson, hearing that Shotwell was displaying it in his Indianapolis office, urged his Indiana counterpart to persuade Shotwell to return it. But Shotwell wanted a finder's fee that Thompson was unwilling to pay. In 1925, a representative for the Shotwell family attempted to return the document for a price, but North Carolina again refused to pay for what it considered its legal property. Seventy years later, the state rebuffed another attempt to sell it.

After Charles Shotwell's daughters sought to sell the family heirloom through the Sotheby's auction house, which refused to list it, they turned to the world of antique dealers. Wayne Pratt, a regular on the TV program "Antiques Roadshow," and silent partner Robert Matthews ultimately bought it for \$200,000, a third less than the original asking price of \$300,000. Pratt and Matthews then hired Washington, D.C., lawyer John Richardson to represent them in their own efforts to resell the Bill of Rights for a much larger profit.

Back to Its Rightful Home

Paul Newby was serving as assistant U.S. attorney for the Eastern District

of North Carolina, based in Raleigh, in 2003 when then U.S. Attorney Frank Whitney asked him to meet with North Carolina Governor Mike Easley's general counsel and representatives from the state attorney general's office and the state archives.

Easley had received a phone call from Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell, who had been offered an original copy of the Bill of Rights for \$5 million. Realizing that North Carolina might have a claim to it, Rendell wanted the state to waive its claim, allowing Pennsylvania to buy the document and display it in its new National Constitution Center museum. In exchange, Pennsylvania would lend the document to North Carolina for one month each year to display or to use as it saw fit.

Newby successfully petitioned a federal judge to issue a seizure warrant for the document on the grounds of interstate transportation of stolen property. North Carolina officials persuaded the Pennsylvania governor and the National Constitution Center to participate in a sting operation. An FBI agent posing as the "money guy" negotiated the selling price to \$4 million from \$5 million, set a closing date five days later and procured a \$4 million cashier's check from First Union Bank.

Attorney Richardson showed up at the meeting without the Bill of Rights. After inspecting the cashier's check, he called a courier, who arrived 30 minutes later with the Bill of Rights in a huge picture frame in a cardboard box. Government document examiners studied the document and determined it to be both legitimate and the property of North Carolina. At that point, the agent presented the

seizure warrant and took possession of the Bill of Rights.

There have been no criminal prosecutions in the case. But after several years of court challenges by Matthews, North Carolina was declared the sole owner of the Bill of Rights, which is now stored—securely, one would assume—in the State Archives of North Carolina.

"As a lover of North Carolina history, I am honored to have played a role in returning this foundational document to our state, its lawful owner," said Newby, elected to the state Supreme Court in 2004 and as the state chief justice in 2020.

"I encourage everyone to reflect on the uniqueness of America and our gift to the world: the idea that our rights do not come from the government but from God. As the Declaration of Independence reminds us, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.' Government exists to protect these rights. Viewing an original copy of the Bill of Rights reminds us of these fundamental principles." 🇺🇸

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Spreading Cheer: DAR Project Patriot Committee Supports Actively Serving Military

A simple card or care package can make a difference in the lives of actively serving military members. This year, the DAR Project Patriot Committee is encouraging chapters to establish connections with their local USOs and military bases to support military personnel during the holidays.

"We believe it is important for Daughters and chapters to build a rapport with the military units in their local communities or areas," said Peggy Whitcomb, National Chair. "Doing so can help Daughters and chapters provide meaningful support."



Peggy Whitcomb

Mrs. Whitcomb offered guidance for Daughters who partner with local military groups to send cards and care packages.

3 Tips for Cards and Packages

1. Ensure the cards are appropriate and uplifting. Avoid sharing stories of hardship, as these may not be the most encouraging messages for service members facing real danger. Instead, focus on messages of support, gratitude and encouragement.

2. Carefully consider the contents of care packages. Obtain an approved list of desired items from the recipients using platforms like Amazon Wish Lists to eliminate guesswork and ensure efficient delivery. Be mindful of restrictions and regulations. Avoid sending items with glitter, which can be challenging to

Learn
More!

- Go to www.dar.org, and sign in as a member.
- Click "**Committees**" and then "**Project Patriot Committee.**"

remove from uniforms. Familiarize yourself with the regulations regarding items sent to military bases in different countries to ensure packages are not confiscated or rejected.

3. Plan ahead. Shipping times can be unpredictable during the holidays. Start planning and sending packages and cards about three to four weeks in advance.

As different military bases and units contact the DAR Project Patriot Committee, it will post specific holiday projects on the DAR Members' Website, Mrs. Whitcomb said. 📧

Turning the Page: Empowering Communities Through Literacy With the DAR Service to America Committee

In 2022, Daughters achieved a record-breaking milestone by logging 6.5 million hours of service; 1.5 million in the first six months during the VanBuren Administration and 5 million in the last six months during the Wright Administration.

At the 132nd Continental Congress, the Service to America Committee announced that the second Service to America Annual Project, a new initiative of the Wright Administration, will

focus on education. Daughters are encouraged to log their donations of books to public libraries, classrooms, schools and even the DAR Library, said Jamie Burchfield, National Chair. Additionally the committee aims to track the number of individuals read to through children's programs, veterans facilities, libraries and adult literacy programs, Mrs. Burchfield said.



Jamie Burchfield

The committee operates the Service to America Online Tally to facilitate the documentation of service hours and book donations. Members can log their service hours reading to

individuals or groups in 15-minute increments.

There is also a section for recording the number of books donated. Moreover, the committee manages the Service to America Facebook page

and its Daughters Online Community (DOC), encouraging members to share photos and write-ups of their service activities to inspire others. 📧

Breathing Life Into Sacred Grounds: Historic Preservation Committee Is Dedicated to Cemetery Preservation and Restoration

Graveyards and cemeteries hold a special place in history, and for many DAR chapters, preserving and restoring them has become a beloved project.

For example, as part of Black History Month in February 2023, the Cordelia Steen DAR Chapter, Edmond, Oklahoma, cleaned headstones of African-American settlers buried in Gower Memorial Cemetery, established in 1889 by John and Ophelia Gower, who were formerly enslaved. In August 2022, members of the Grinnell DAR Chapter, Grinnell, Iowa, gathered at Chester Cemetery to clean headstones. Members of the Lake Minnetonka DAR Chapter, Wayzata, Minnesota, have also made headstone restoration a regular project. These are just a small sample of the chapters across the country prioritizing caring for their community's cemeteries and graveyards.

"Done properly, cleaning cemeteries and headstones is a straightforward activity," said Elizabeth Hotchkiss, National Chair. "It can be done as an individual project or with a group of Daughters."

Mrs. Hotchkiss said this project holds a special place in her heart. "Cemetery preservation and restoration is my favorite topic. It was one of the first projects my chapter [Majabigwaduce DAR Chapter, Brooksville, Maine] did. Several of us went to a four-day workshop to learn how to clean and restore headstones properly and then came back and got straight to work."



Elizabeth Hotchkiss

Tips for Cleaning and Restoring Headstones

Mrs. Hotchkiss provided six tips for Daughters or chapters interested in getting started with cemetery preservation and restoration.

1. Get permission. Ask the family or the association overseeing the cemetery before starting any cleaning activities. Respect for the resting places of others is paramount.

2. Familiarize yourself with state laws. States have varying laws and guidelines regarding the maintenance and care of gravesites. In particular, veterans' graves are often protected, and town authorities are responsible for their upkeep. Make sure to understand and abide by the regulations in your area.

3. Do no harm. When assessing a gravestone, exercise caution and avoid causing further damage. If a stone is cracked, leaning or significantly deteriorated, refrain from touching it.

4. Use gentle cleaning techniques. Begin by removing loose dirt, leaves and debris from the surrounding area. To clean the stone, start from the bottom and work your way up. Use clear water and a soft brush to clean the surface. To reach crevices, use a wooden stick—ice-pop sticks work great. Take extra care when cleaning around delicate engravings.

5. Rinse and avoid harmful substances. Rinse the headstone after

cleaning to remove any residue. Products containing salt or bleach can accelerate the stone's deterioration and should not be used.

6. Seek professional expertise. If you have heavily soiled or damaged headstones, consult professionals. They can provide guidance on the use of specialized cleaning agents.

It is also important to consider the temperature when working on headstones. In Maine, where Mrs. Hotchkiss lives, Daughters do not clean grave-stones until the evening temperature is a constant 45 degrees. "If you work on a stone and rinse it with water during freezing temperatures, that water could freeze and crack the stone," she said. The same caution must be taken during hot summer months. Using cold water on stones heated by the sun can also lead to surface fractures. She also recommends taking before-and-after photos of the graves and headstones to document the work. 🌿

Learn More!

Learn More About Headstone Restoration

- Visit the DAR Members' Website at www.dar.org/members.
- Click on "Committees," then click on "Historic Preservation."
- In the gray box on the right, click "Forms," then click "Historic Preservation Trifold Guidelines to Properly Clean a Headstone."

Unlock Your Leadership Potential With the DAR Committee Leaders Course

DAR offers a range of courses and resources to empower Daughters to become active and engaged participants in DAR at all levels—national, state and chapter. One such course is the Committee Leaders Course, which aims to equip members with the necessary knowledge and skills to become effective committee leaders from the chapter to the national chair level.



"The primary goal of the Committee Leaders Course is to develop and enhance leadership skills among DAR members," said Brenda Majewski, National Vice Chair of the Leadership Training Committee. "Many members may find themselves taking on responsibilities for the first time, such as planning ceremonies or organizing programs. This course provides guidance on setting goals, creating budgets and engaging with others effectively."

The course is offered through a series of online modules consisting of 17 lessons that cover various aspects of committee leadership. These lessons include webinars, worksheets and vignettes that provide valuable information and guidance. They cover the review and evaluation process of the worksheets and course modules. State Coordinators are responsible for the Committee Leaders Course, and participants submit their completed worksheets electronically for review.

Course participants also choose three committees to learn more about, complete workbooks associated with those

committees and gain a comprehensive understanding of DAR's service areas. This flexibility enables members to tailor their learning experience to their specific interests, Mrs. Majewski said.



Melinda Anderson, Treasurer of the Columbia River DAR Chapter, Richland, Washington, completed the course in the fall of 2022. When it became time to choose committees, she focused on the Historic Preservation Committee, which has always been her passion; the Service to America Committee; and the Service to Veterans Committee.

"I did not know much at all about the Service to Veterans Committee," Ms. Anderson said. "I learned about how much the DAR does to honor veterans and what we do to support them. I was amazed."

As part of the Committee Leaders Course, participants are required to plan a chapter service project or event. This project allows members to apply

their newfound knowledge and skills in a practical setting. The course provides six additional worksheets that guide participants through the planning and execution of their projects. While the project does not need to be executed in practice, it serves as a comprehensive exercise in project planning.



Donna McNeil, Regent of the Daniel Boone DAR Chapter, Boone, North Carolina, completed the course in February 2022. Though participants can plan an imaginary project, Ms. McNeil chose to complete hers.

"I updated our chapter website with a list of our chapter's Patriots, listed by their state of service and rank," Ms. McNeil said. "I then made wooden ornaments, one for each Patriot with his or her name, to use for America 250! displays at the library or at special events."

Graduates of the course, including Ms. McNeil and Ms. Anderson, recommend all Daughters take it—regardless of whether they are leading a committee.

"I really believe it is one of the best courses that any member could take," Ms. McNeil said. "You learn so much about the different committees that DAR has to offer and develop such helpful skills."

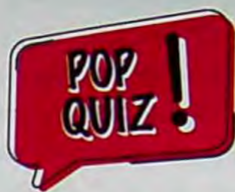
Ms. Anderson agreed: "I am not sure how many members know about all it is that DAR committees accomplish. This course spurred my interest in learning more about DAR and all the myriad projects and activities that the organization is engaged in." 🌟

Learn
More!

Register today for the Committee Leaders Course!

- Visit www.dar.org, and sign in as a member.
- Click on "Committees."
- Click on "DAR Leadership Training."
- Scroll down to see the "Committee Leaders Course." State Coordinators are listed by state.

GEP 3 Course Teaches Techniques for Resolving Problems on DAR Records



What records can be used to verify a lineage that descends through the female line? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Marriage records
- ☐ Land records
- ☐ Church records
- ☐ Deeds
- ☐ Probate records

Do you know the answer? If so, you have probably taken the GEP 3 course: Advanced Techniques for Resolving Problems With Lineage or Service on DAR Records.

The GEP 3 course is the third in a series of courses provided by the DAR Genealogy Department to help genealogists learn the skills needed to successfully prepare DAR Applications and Supplemental Applications. In GEP 3, Daughters learn how to analyze documentation and resolve problems with lineage and service, said Danielle Teyssier, a DAR staff genealogist and GEP Coordinator.

The course is divided into 12 lessons that help Daughters build upon the skills learned in GEP 1 (Introduction to Genealogical Research for DAR Applications) and GEP 2 (Applying Genealogy Research Techniques to DAR Applications).

— By Megan Hamby —

Members are strongly encouraged to take the classes in order, Teyssier said.

GEP 3 Lessons:

- Finding Alternative Sources
- Research Techniques for Historically Underrepresented Lineages
- Research Techniques for Women Within a Lineage
- Using Indirect Evidence
- Creating an Analysis
- Residence During the Revolutionary War
- Military Service
- Civil Service
- Patriotic Service
- Service of Foreign Nations
- Identifying Service for a Specific Ancestor
- Resolving Complex Service Problems

In these lessons, Daughters can expect to learn strategies for working with lineages that may be difficult to prove, as well as proving Revolutionary War residence and service, Teyssier said.

Like the GEP 1 and GEP 2 courses, the GEP 3 course can be taken on a phone, tablet or computer. Lessons consist of videos, worksheets, transcripts and quizzes. To progress through the course, you must achieve a passing score on the quiz for each lesson. Five attempts are available for each quiz.

The registration fee of \$75 allows 90 days of access to the course. To sign up, follow these instructions:

> **Register for Bridge**, the DAR's learning platform, at https://selfbridge.stiation.custom-bridgeapp.com/sign_up/gep.

> **After registering** for the Bridge app, visit www.nsdar.myshopify.com and create an account using the same email address used for Bridge.

> **Click on "GEP 3: Advanced Techniques for Resolving Problems With Lineage or Service on DAR Records"** and add to cart.

Once you have purchased your course, allow up to 10 minutes for it to appear on your My Learning page on the Bridge platform.

Wondering how you did on the pop quiz? If you selected all five answers, you are correct! 🍀

Learn More!

Learn More About GEP Courses!

- Visit www.dar.org and sign in as a member.
- Click on "**Genealogy**" at the top of the page.
- Under "**Applications and Supplementals**," click on "**Genealogy Education Programs (GEP)**."

Leaving Her Mark

By Rae Anna Victor

Washington Daughter, at **age 105**, has inspired many with service

Elizabeth Turner Clodfelter, who recently celebrated her 105th birthday, has been a key contributor to DAR for more than three decades and a longtime inspiration to other Daughters.

She was born in Spokane, Washington, at the home of her paternal grandparents and received her early education in a two-room schoolhouse in Calder, Idaho. After attending a business college in Spokane on a secretarial scholarship, she worked as a secretary to the county superintendent of schools. On that job, she met her husband, Paul, a World War II veteran. They married in May 1947 and were happily

DAR Chapter and was approved for membership. I started attending meetings, met wonderful women who shared common interests, and became more and more involved as time went on."

Mrs. Clodfelter was a Chapter Recording Secretary and Chapter Regent for two years, 1994–1995 and 1995–1996. She was the Washington State Outstanding Chapter Regent for 1995–1996 and a Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS) Committee member. As a Deputy Representative at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center for many years, she visited patients in the hospital monthly.

She joined Jonas Babcock DAR Chapter, Spokane, as an associate member and was DAR School Chair of both Spokane Garry and Jonas Babcock DAR Chapters for about 14 years, until September 2013. Jonas Babcock DAR Chapter members began donating school supplies to children in Spokane's most disadvantaged elementary schools during these years and still do. Mrs. Clodfelter contacted the schools and delivered the supplies.

Mrs. Clodfelter was The Flag of the United States of America

Committee Chapter Chair for well over a decade. During that time, she and her best friend, Jackie Daniels of Jonas Babcock DAR Chapter, organized and conducted Flag retirement ceremonies near July 4 at Camp Fire Day Camp for large groups of children to learn Flag etiquette and how to dispose of old Flags. Each child always received a small Flag to take home.

During the early 1990s, Mrs. Clodfelter spoke at DAR chapters and various civic organizations about the history of the Flag and collected many worn-out Flags for retirement. Mrs. Clodfelter continues this service today, bringing a "Flag bag" to each meeting to collect old Flags. When she cannot physically attend the meeting, she attends on Zoom.



"I love and enjoy DAR. It has been a big part of my life for nearly three decades. Patriotism, education and historical preservation are very close to my heart."

married for 57 years, traveling extensively, until he died in 2004. They have two children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Clodfelter joined the DAR in February 1990 as a member of Spokane Garry DAR Chapter in Washington.

"When an unmarried aunt died in October 1984, I was sent a trunk containing some of her treasured belongings," Mrs. Clodfelter said. "Along with mementos and handmade needlework, the trunk contained some newspaper clippings, information and family stories about Joseph Daniel Dickson, an ancestor on my father's side who had served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. I contacted Spokane Garry

From 1992 to 2008, she attended almost all state conferences of the Washington State Society DAR (WSSDAR) and Continental Congress several times. She was The Flag of the United States of America Committee State Chair and DAR School Committee State Chair, serving from 1996–2000. She and her husband visited all five DAR schools in the South in October 1996. She collected the names of all the students and had chapter members “adopt a student,” so each one would receive a birthday card and gift.

In 1997, she attended the annual meetings of two DAR Schools, Tamassee and Kate Duncan Smith, and the National DAR School Tour to the five Southern schools. During her term as DAR School Committee State Chair, the WSSDAR was responsible for the Washington State Cottage, a two-bedroom house used for overnight visitors and staff at Tamassee. Washington chapters purchased paver bricks for the walkway to the cottage. During these years, the chapters supported the older girls at the



school in many ways. Mrs. Clodfelter purchased a dogwood tree, which the chapel planted near the administration building with a plaque honoring Washington State School Committees. She has often donated funds to the school in memory or honor of friends and fellow DAR members. (*Editor's Note: Tamassee is no longer a DAR-sponsored school.*)

“Supporting the DAR schools has been important to me throughout my years in DAR,” Mrs. Clodfelter said. “Because of the overwhelming poverty in rural mountain regions of the South, many children

are faced with challenges that prevent them from receiving a basic education and opportunities that we take for granted in many parts of this country. The DAR schools offer young men and women who are fortunate to attend a future that would otherwise be unavailable to them.”

For Constitution Week in 2019, Mrs. Clodfelter and several other Jonas Babcock DAR Chapter members visited five businesses that collectively had flown the Flag for more than 200 years. They also presented a Flag to Gonzaga University, whose ROTC members had flown the Flag continually since the early 1940s, records show, and most likely earlier than that. After Mrs. Clodfelter presented the NSDAR Flag Certificate to President Thane McCulloch and the head of the ROTC program, he presented her with a crystal weight bearing the university logo for her decades of work promoting the Flag.

Mrs. Clodfelter is a walking history book. Her life has spanned the terms of 19 U.S. presidents, and she can tell you about each of them. She provides monthly Flag minutes at each Jonas Babcock DAR Chapter meeting; if she cannot attend, she emails the minutes.

“I love and enjoy DAR,” she said. “It has been a big part of my life for nearly three decades. Patriotism, education and historical preservation are very close to my heart.”

Mrs. Clodfelter is a precious gem who doesn't realize her true value. Asked about her contributions, she will likely say, “Oh, I didn't do all this—I had a lot of help.”

The truth is, yes, she did have help, but the bigger truth is that she was the inspiration that galvanized the help. 🌟



IMAGES COURTESY OF RAE ANNA VICTOR AND ELIZABETH TURNER CLODFELTER

Ideas, Ideas, Ideas!

Engage in Our Collective DAR Mission of
Historic Preservation, Education and Patriotism

Hauntingly Happy

October Chapter Meetings

Use these ideas to make your
October meeting spooktacularly fun!

- Wear Halloween hats or full costumes.
- Bake Halloween-inspired treats to serve at the meeting.
- Discuss the proper care and cleaning of gravestones. See page 21 for details. Make plans to clean gravestones in a local cemetery in Service to America!
- Have your chapter meeting serve as a collection point to gather books to donate to local schools, libraries or the DAR Library—this year's highlighted Service to America project. See page 20 for more details.
- Does your chapter own a chapter house that could provide treats at Halloween? Consider decorating each room with a non-scary Halloween scene as shown in the invitation on the next page. ✨



GETTY IMAGES



Chapter History Researched

Nancy Parks sits at her home surrounded by the binders that she created containing the history of the Augusta DAR Chapter, Augusta, Georgia, with a portrait of one of her ancestors behind her. The binders will be permanently cataloged at the Augusta State University library. ★

Historic Preservation Grant Honors Female Patriot

Thanks to fundraising by the Eliza Lucas Pinckney DAR Chapter, Charleston, South Carolina, Doreen Finkelstein performed extensive conservation work on the Charleston Museum's Eliza Lucas Pinckney 18th-century sack-back gown in 2017. The gown was on display as part of the museum's 250th anniversary exhibition, "America's First Museum: 250 Years of Collecting, Preserving and Educating." Members of the chapter, shown in the photo, enjoyed a visit to the exhibition and a special presentation by Textile Curator Virginia Theerman. ★



*Distinctly
DAR*

Reverence is always shown to the Flag of the United States of America. This photo depicts a key moment in the Flag Raising Ceremony at the 132nd Continental Congress. ★



Join us for a Children's
SWEET, NOT SCARY HALLOWEEN
SCENES WALK-THROUGH &

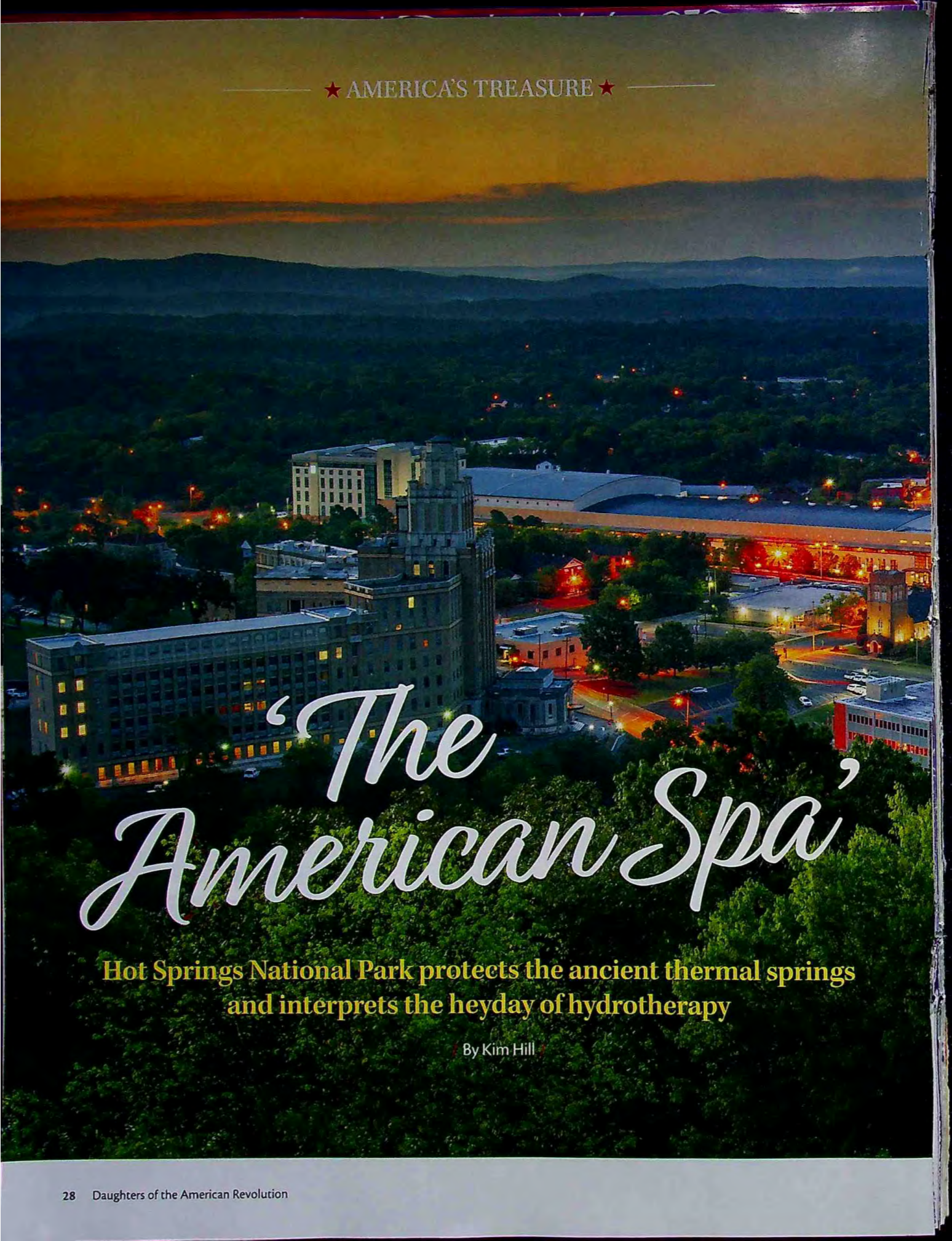


Trick or Treat

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

Oliver Ellsworth Homestead
778 Palisado Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095
www.ellsworthhomesteaddar.org

Children Free With Adult \$15 Admission
Costumes Optional

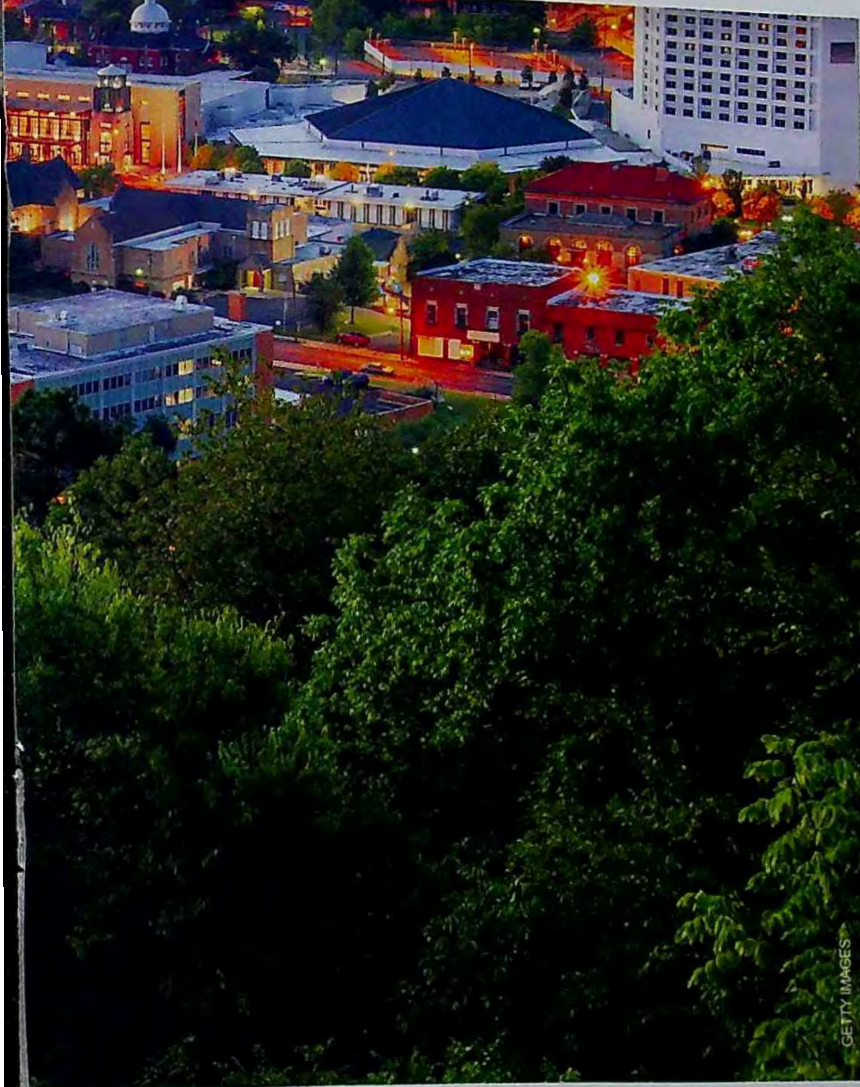
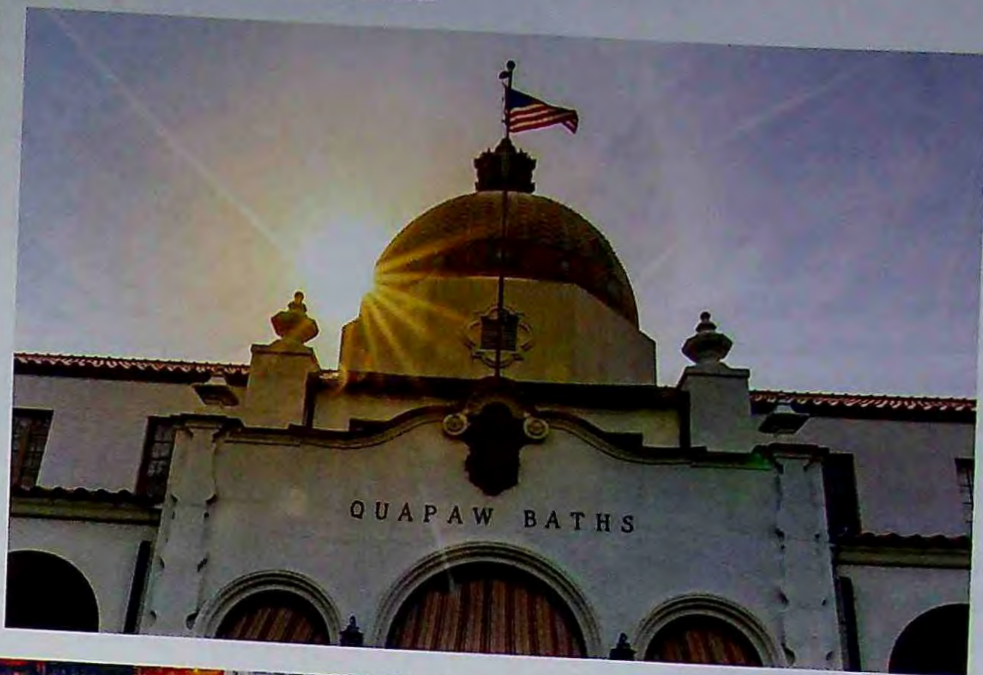


★ AMERICA'S TREASURE ★

'The American Spa'

**Hot Springs National Park protects the ancient thermal springs
and interprets the heyday of hydrotherapy**

By Kim Hill



H

Hot Springs holds several unusual distinctions among our country's national parks.

It is an urban park located within the Arkansas town of the same name, and at approximately 5,500 acres, it is the second smallest of the 63 national parks. Some also consider it the oldest, predating Yellowstone National Park by 40 years, because President Andrew Jackson signed legislation protecting Hot Springs as a reservation in 1832.

An Ancient Process

When the first Europeans saw the area, Indigenous peoples had already been coming to this section of the Ouachita Mountains for centuries to obtain novaculite stone (ideal for sharpening cutting tools) and to enjoy the spring water.

Tectonic plates collided around 300 million years ago, bending and breaking the layers of rocks. When water falls as rain in the mountains, it seeps into the cracks of deformed rock layers. Trickling deep into the earth at a rate of about a foot per year, water also slowly heats as it travels along rock naturally heated from pressure.

GETTY IMAGES

The thermal springs emerging in the park today fell as rain when the Egyptians were building the pyramids.

According to the National Park Service (NPS), the water travels for 4,000 years before hitting a fault line and returning to the surface. The thermal springs emerging in the park today fell as rain when the Egyptians were building the pyramids.

Healing Waters Enamor Public Servants, Industry Titans

Legend says American Indians led Hernando de Soto to the area in 1541; some conquistadores allegedly bathed in the spring waters. Soon after the Louisiana Purchase, when the area became American territory, President Thomas Jefferson dispatched the Hunter-Dunbar Expedition to survey the area. When they arrived in 1804, these scientists and explorers reported seeing small huts whereby visitors could partake in what they believed were the water's healing properties.

By the end of the Civil War, Hot Springs had gained a

reputation as a place for restoration thanks to its thermal springs. It began to attract wealthy businessmen such as Samuel W. Fordyce, who moved his family to Hot Springs in 1876. He and several other investors built the Victorian-style wooden bathhouses that prompted Hot Springs to advertise itself as "the world's sanitarium." They also built other infrastructure, including hotels, hospitals and bathhouses in other parts of the town that used the spring's thermal water.

Fordyce opened the Fordyce Bathhouse in 1915. According to the NPS, the 28,000-square-foot Fordyce is the largest bathhouse on Bathhouse Row, with three main floors, two courtyards and an expansive basement. It closed on June 30, 1962, as the first of the Row bathhouses to fail.

However, by 1969 the Fordyce had been fully restored, and now it serves as both a museum and the park's visitor center. Self-guided tours of the Fordyce Bathhouse let you view the restored splendor of the building at your own pace.



There are eight historic bathhouses on the Row. One of the better preserved is the Buckstaff, which has been in continuous operation since 1912. Featuring a Classical design and interiors of marble and tile flooring, the Buckstaff touts itself as the only house offering a full traditional bathing experience.

With its mosaic-tiled dome, the Quapaw, which opened in 1922, stands out among the other bathhouses. The Superior, the smallest on Bathhouse Row, closed in 1983. The building has found new life as Superior Bathhouse Brewery, the only brewery in a U.S. national park and reportedly the only brewer in the world using thermal spring water to craft beer.

Samuel Fordyce was not the only influential fan of Hot Springs. Stephen Mather, the first director of the National Park Service, and his assistant at the time, Horace Albright, visited Hot Springs in 1915 on an inspection tour. Mather was so fond of the bathhouses he reportedly skipped departmental meetings for treatments. His influence helped convince Congress to redesignate Hot Springs from a reservation to a national park in March 1921.

Things to Do

In addition to viewing the bathhouses, you can “take the waters” in an authentic, historic experience at the Buckstaff and Quapaw bathhouses. Visitors can also quaff the spring waters at several water fountains around Bathhouse Row. The water is hot, so bring a safe container to hold it.

Even if you do not “take the waters,” you can still see and touch them at two locations within the park. The Display Spring flows out of a hillside fissure and into a shallow pool behind the Maurice Bathhouse. The park’s largest visible spring, the Hot Water Cascade at Arlington Lawn, also flows from a hillside near the Grand Promenade. The water emerging in the historic section of Hot Springs National Park averages a temperature of 143 degrees Fahrenheit.

You can stroll along the Grand Promenade as visitors have for decades. This half-mile brick walkway behind the bathhouses was designed as an architectural transition from the bustle of



◀ Display Springs; Ozark Bathhouse on Bathhouse Row



the Row to the natural beauty of the mountains, according to 1930s National Park Service architect Charles Peterson.

The park’s 26 miles of hiking trails were built on the remains of centuries-old walking trails. Hot Springs and North Mountain trails provide scenic views and are easy to reach from the visitor center. Gulpha Gorge Campground offers swimming and picnicking opportunities as well as campsites.

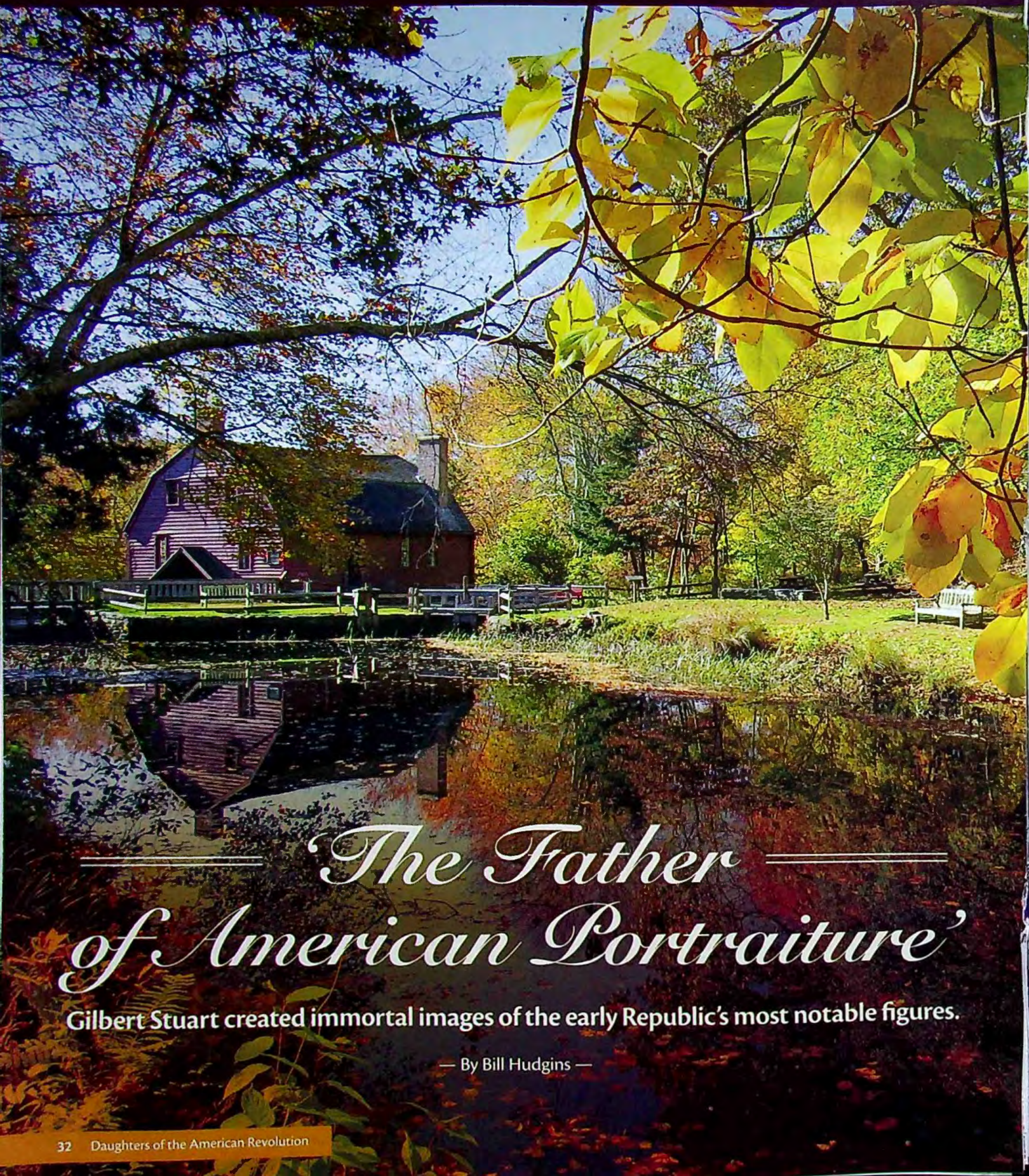
Visit the Hot Springs Mountain Tower for panoramic views of 140 square miles of countryside and the entire park. Along scenic drives, overlooks also provide great views. And because it is an urban park, shopping is just steps away. In fact, the official park store, the Bathhouse Emporium, is inside the Lamar Bathhouse.

Respecting the Past

In the early 1900s, Hot Springs was the country’s most visited health and wellness resort, but by the late 1940s, hydrotherapy interest had peaked, and most of the bathhouses had closed by the 1960s. Bathhouse Row was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974, part of a surge of public interest in preserving the historic structures to respect the colorful past when Hot Springs was “The American Spa.” 🏡



For more information and to plan a trip to Hot Springs, visit the NPS webpage www.nps.gov/hosp.



The Father of American Portraiture

Gilbert Stuart created immortal images of the early Republic's most notable figures.

— By Bill Hudgins —

Regarded as “The Father of American Portraiture,” Gilbert Charles Stuart (December 3, 1755–July 9, 1828) painted many leading Americans of the Revolutionary and Federal era, including the first six presidents; Abigail Adams and Dolley Madison; and Mohawk chief Joseph Brant.

Of his more than 1,000 portraits, the best-known works are the unfinished “Athenaeum Portrait” of George Washington that appears on our \$1 bill and the full-length “Lansdowne” portrait of Washington saved from the White House when the British burned it in 1814. Stuart’s portraits of Thomas Jefferson were the basis for his image on our \$2 bill.

Stuart was born in the village of Saunterstown, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, to Gilbert and Elizabeth Anthony Stewart—the spelling was later changed to Stuart. He spent his first six years in the gambrel-roofed building that served as home and the site of his father’s snuff mill, the first in New England.

Tobacco was an important cash crop in Rhode Island. It was sold and exported to Scottish mills that ground it into snuff, then sold it back to Americans as an expensive luxury product, said Dr. Michelle Lee Leonard, executive director of the Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum.

Stuart’s father was an experienced miller and, along with two partners, decided to produce domestic snuff at a lower price. He built the house and snuff mill. The snuff mill was successful, but the business ran into financial difficulties, and in 1761 the family moved to Newport, Rhode Island, and opened a shop. (See “Portrait of a Genius” on page 35.)

The house, built in 1751, forms the centerpiece of the Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum (www.gilbertstuartmuseum.org). It has been authentically restored and is furnished with period antiques and reproductions of Stuart’s portraits.

The 23-acre site features woodland trails, an herb garden filled with Colonial-era plants, and a millpond where museum members can rent rowboats and go fishing. The welcome center houses the Bell Art Gallery, which displays original works by Gilbert Stuart, his daughter Jane Stuart and other artists.

The home passed through several hands after the family left in 1761. From 1905 to 1931, it functioned as a tavern and



Unfinished “Athenaeum Portrait” of George Washington, 1796

a boardinghouse. By the 1930s, it had deteriorated to the point it faced demolition. Aware of its historical significance, area residents formed the Gilbert Stuart Memorial, Inc. in February 1931 to raise money to acquire and restore the property.

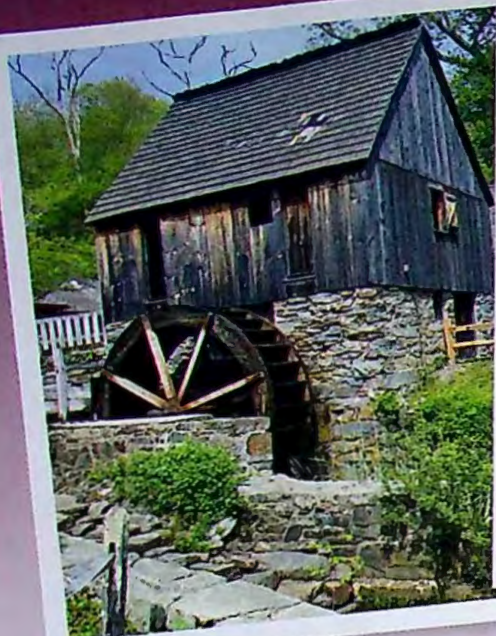
Restoring the House

The founding board included noted architect and preservationist Norman Isham, who oversaw the restoration. Work included replacing the wooden waterwheel and installing a working, period-appropriate snuff mill in its original setting on the bottom floor. Progress proceeded slowly as crews ran into unsuspected—and expensive—problems, forcing the organization to seek more funds to pay for the unbudgeted repairs. The immense costs of the renovations led to a successful nationwide fundraising campaign; contributors included owners of Stuart paintings, civic groups and members of DAR. Even though the campaign was during the depths of the Great Depression, the board was able to secure the funds to purchase the property and stabilize and restore the home.

Isham discovered that a great deal of the original 1750 structure was intact, including the original floorboards. Isham left the walls in the entry hall and birth room and northeast

Fun Fact!

Gilbert Stuart painted portraits of the first six presidents. He also painted a portrait of John Quincy Adams as senator. While working on a later portrait of Quincy Adams, Stuart died after finishing only the face, so Thomas Sully was commissioned to finish the portrait.



Left and right: Hammond Gristmill, built in 1757, restored in 2007
Middle: Ladder for the river herring

bedroom uncovered, as most of these structures would have been present for Stuart's birth, as well.

The house has three floors. According to its 1974 National Register of Historic Places Inventory form, the north side of the clapboard house was built into a hill next to the waterfall that turns the waterwheel. As a result, the northern entrance is on the second floor.

The ground floor, which has two entrances, contains the snuff mill and a large kitchen. Bedrooms are on the top floor—historians believe Stuart was born in the northeast bedroom.

The plain interior features plank floors, white plaster walls, exposed beams and members, and paneled fireplaces and cupboards. After the restoration, the house was decorated with reproductions of Stuart's works.

Furnishings are appropriate to the period and to the Stuarts' socioeconomic level, according to the form, which adds that "all the items associated with Gilbert Stuart and the few pieces of his work that the association owned were stolen five years ago [1969] and have not been recovered." The items include a silver rattle and a Stuart painting, Dr. Lee Leonard said.

Adjacent to the house is a one-story gristmill that ground corn for local farmers. It is called the Hammond Gristmill for the family who owned and operated it from 1813–1867. The

restored mill includes the original 1757 millstones and a 4-ton white oak waterwheel.

Conservation Center

The Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum has also played a leading conservation role. The grounds are a haven for wildlife—with more than 85 species of birds spotted there.

Moreover, the birthplace has played a major role in restoring the life cycles of two aquatic species that were historically important to both American Indians and European colonists: river herring and American eels.

Herring spend most of their lives at sea, then swim upstream to spawn in freshwater. The Gilbert Stuart dam across the Narrow River cut them off until the 1960s, when, facing a state-wide decline in the herring fishery, the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife began placing fish ladders over dams.

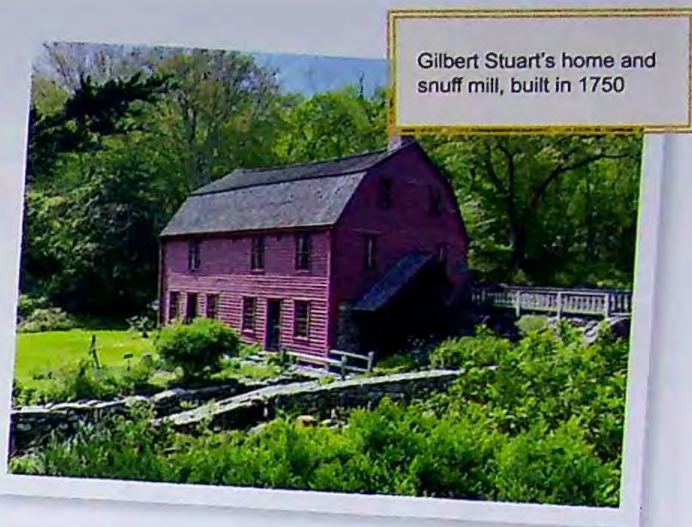
Today, the Gilbert Stuart fish ladder enables an estimated 250,000 herring to swim upstream to spawn in nearby Carr Pond. Visitors can watch the herring through an underwater camera during the March–May run.

The millrace branches off the Narrow River and can lure herring into what is essentially a dead end at the Stuart Birthplace. In 2021, The Nature Conservancy and the Rhode

Island Department of Environmental Management installed a wood and fiberglass picket weir across the entrance to block access during the herring run. The removable weir replaced plastic fencing, which was prone to fail in high water.

The birthplace also has an eel ramp that allows the sinuous fish to wriggle over the dam and continue to Carr Pond. Eels spawn in the ocean and swim upstream to live most of their lives in freshwater before returning to the ocean to spawn. The dam also interrupted this cycle, so the eel ramp was installed in 2000.

The Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum is open seasonally from late April through mid-October. For details, visit the museum's website at www.gilbertstuartmuseum.org or call (401) 294-3001. 🌐



Gilbert Stuart's home and snuff mill, built in 1750

Portrait of a Genius



Gilbert Stuart's artistic talent blossomed after his family moved to Newport, Rhode Island. He began to take lessons, first from a local artist and then from an itinerant Scottish painter, Cosmo Alexander (1724–1772).

Stuart became Alexander's apprentice, and the two traveled in 1771 to Scotland, where he furthered his studies. Alexander's death in 1772 left Stuart destitute and stranded. He eventually returned to America by signing on as a seaman on a westbound ship.

When the Revolution started in 1775, Stuart's parents moved to Nova Scotia, and the budding artist went to London to continue his studies. In 1777, he began a five-year stint as an assistant to the celebrated American painter Benjamin West.

Stuart's painting "The Skater (Portrait of William Grant)" was a hit at the 1782 London Royal Academy of Art exhibition. Demand for his portraits climbed, and he moved into his own studio and began charging premium fees.

Despite his success, Stuart was constantly in debt. In 1787, just a year after he married Charlotte Coates, the couple fled to Ireland to escape creditors. He spent almost six years painting—and running up new debts—before returning to the United States in 1793, hoping to paint George Washington and establish his career in America.

He spent two years in New York City painting notables such as John Jay, who referred Stuart to other prominent individuals and gave him a letter of introduction to George Washington at the then-capital of Philadelphia. Stuart began working on the first of his many portraits of the president in March 1795.

Stuart lived in Philadelphia until 1803, then in Washington, D.C., from 1803–1805, and in Boston from 1805 until his death on July 9, 1828. Between 1817 and 1821, he painted the Gibbs-Coolidge Set, the only surviving complete set of portraits depicting the first five presidents, according to the National Gallery of Art (NGA).

Stylistically, Stuart's portraits eschewed the stuffy, static poses of the English "Grand Manner" school for more lively images, the National Gallery of Art's website explains. This style irked some of his traditionalist clients but appealed to Americans.

"British sitters had expected flattery, but Americans desired factual accuracy," the NGA site states. He was a master at depicting skin tones and the play of light on surfaces, and his quick, deft brushwork imparted spontaneity and energy to the work.

In 1824, Stuart had a stroke that paralyzed his face, but he continued to paint and work with young painters. He and his wife had 12 children, and he outlived seven of them. His daughter Jane Stuart, also a painter, was his last studio assistant. He died in 1828 and is buried in the Central Burial Ground at Boston Common. 🌐



The Mountain State

A Tapestry of History, Adventure
and Natural Beauty

By Nancy Mann Jackson

Harpers
Ferry



Cass Scenic
Railroad



In one of John Denver's classic songs, "Take Me Home, Country Roads," he describes West Virginia as "almost heaven." With its scenic drives, natural beauty and charming attractions, West Virginia truly lives up to its nickname as the Mountain State, especially during the vibrant autumn season.

West Virginia, the only state entirely located in the Appalachian Mountains range, offers a picturesque backdrop for outdoor activities, visits to luxury resorts and exploration of historical landmarks.

"If you love nature and the outdoors, you can explore West Virginia in every season, but a drive through West Virginia in the fall is amazing," said Jane Larke, State Regent of the West

Virginia State Society Daughters of the American Revolution (WVDAR). "The West Virginia mountains just have a beautiful mix of color in the fall."

Get to Know West Virginia

Originally part of Virginia, West Virginia emerged as a separate state as a result of the Civil War. The western part of the state remained part of the Union when the rest of Virginia seceded in 1861, leading to West Virginia's establishment as its own state in 1863.

Historical sites in the state include ones dating to the Colonial and Revolutionary War era and the Civil War. "The state of West Virginia was not yet formed during the Revolutionary War time period, and much of this area existed as a frontier," Mrs. Larke said. "Because of the rugged terrain, many of the early population centers originated around rivers, which made traveling easier. But there is a lot of history in our hills."

The sweeping hills of West Virginia offer both deep history and modern adventure, giving visitors opportunities to experience a wide range of educational, sightseeing and leisure activities.

Soak Up West Virginia History

Daughters visiting West Virginia will want to make time for several of the state's nationally significant historical sites, ranging from the Colonial era to Civil War times and more modern 20th-century history.

Visiting Fort Ashby in Mineral County provides a glimpse into the Colonial era. The fort, also known as Ashby's Fort, was built in 1755 under the orders of Colonel George Washington during the French and Indian War and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Other reconstructed forts, including Prickett's Fort in Fairmont, Fort New Salem in Salem and Fort Randolph in Point Pleasant, offer immersive experiences of living history museums, Mrs. Larke said.

For a unique historic experience, visit Berkeley Springs, where natural warm springs have been enjoyed by American Indians and Founding Fathers alike. Thomas Jefferson's father first noted the location of the "Medicine

The Greenbrier



★ TRAVEL LOG ★

Springs" on a map he drew in 1747, and George Washington was a frequent visitor from 1748 through the 1760s. Today, visitors still enjoy "taking the waters" at a constant 74 degrees Fahrenheit; spa services at reasonable rates; and the town's unique, artistic culture.

West Virginia holds significance beyond vacationing in the life of George Washington. He also surveyed much of the state and owned land in Morgan County near the Potomac River and the valleys of the Ohio River and Kanawha River, Mrs. Larke says. (At the West Virginia State Museum in Charleston, you can see the telescope Washington used to survey the state's lands, among other artifacts.)

Washington's youngest brother, Charles, built his home, Happy Retreat, in western Virginia and founded Charles Town, open for tours on the first Saturday of the month. Another Washington brother, Samuel, lived nearby and was

the great-grandfather of Eugenia Washington, one of the founders of the NSDAR. "Daughters

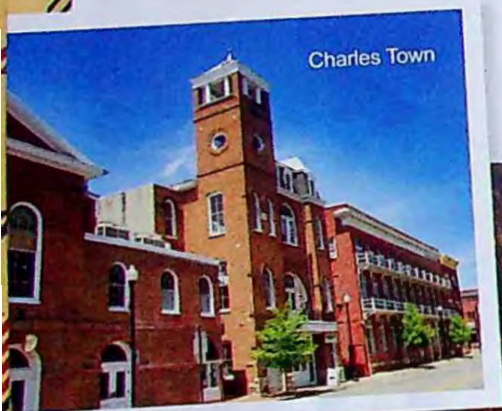
might especially enjoy visiting Charles Town, to walk the same streets as did Eugenia Washington," Mrs. Larke said.

While in the area, explore the Washington Heritage Trail, a 136-mile scenic byway tracing the areas George Washington and his family frequented.

For post-Revolutionary history, a visit to Harpers Ferry is a must. This quaint historic town and its National Historical Park offer Civil War battlefields, campsites, John Brown's Fort and the John Brown Museum, where, in 1859, the abolitionist John Brown led the Harpers Ferry Raid on the federal armory to fight for the freedom of enslaved people, an important precursor to the Civil War.

Step into railroad history by riding the 11-mile Cass Scenic Railroad in Cass or the Potomac Eagle Scenic Railroad in Romney. These train rides offer panoramic views of the Appalachians with a historic rail experience from the 1800s.

You can experience the deep history of coal mining in West Virginia with a visit to Beckley Exhibition Coal Mine, which began operations around 1889 as the Phillips-Sprague Mine. Former miners lead tours of the coal mines, and



"There is literally something for everyone in West Virginia."

—JANE LARKE, WEST VIRGINIA DAR STATE REGENT

visitors can also stop by the Pemberton Coal Camp Church and Helen Coal Camp School to learn more about life in a coal mining camp.

If you are looking for a luxurious resort stay—or just a tour—visit The Greenbrier, nestled in the Allegheny Mountains in White Sulphur Springs. The Greenbrier is a National Historic Landmark that has welcomed guests since 1778 and served as a hospital for wounded soldiers during both the Civil War and World War II. Guided hotel tours are available for those wanting to see the property without splurging for an overnight stay. Also at The Greenbrier is The Bunker, the underground facility constructed during America's Cold War with the Soviet Union as a top-secret emergency fallout shelter for Congress. Today the public can tour The Bunker, which was decommissioned in 1992.

Relish Outdoor West Virginia

In addition to its rich history, West Virginia offers "spectacular" natural areas, Mrs. Larke said. Harpers Ferry, known as the "psychological halfway point" of the Appalachian Trail, offers hiking trails with varying degrees of difficulty and equally breathtaking scenery.

New River Gorge National Park and Preserve in Glen Jean became the country's 63rd national park in December 2020. With its 70,000 acres, including a 53-mile stretch of the New River, the park is a haven for whitewater rafting—available from beginner to challenging levels—as well as hiking, biking, climbing and fishing. The park also boasts scenic drives showcasing the region's beauty.

Another must-see is Blackwater Falls State Park in Davis, home of a 57-foot waterfall and one of the state's most frequently photographed destinations. The park features a 57-foot waterfall, Elakala Falls; Pendleton Point Overlook; and Lindy Point, where visitors can stand on a 35-foot-tall balancing rock above the 1,000-foot gorge of the Blackwater Canyon.



Blackwater Falls State Park



New River Gorge National Park

Beautiful at any time of year, the park features easy hikes for all levels.

West Virginia's Monongahela National Forest covers 919,000 acres across 10 counties and includes the highest peak in the state. The park features diverse trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding, and opportunities for swimming, boating, fishing and winter activities like snowmobiling, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

The state celebrates local artists and heritage through various festivals. Its warm and welcoming population ensures a memorable experience for visitors, according to Mrs. Larke. "West Virginia has a wide range of interesting places to visit," she said. "We have areas that are completely remote with rugged wilderness on one hand, and on the other, the luxurious accommodations of The Greenbrier. There is literally something for everyone in West Virginia." 🌲



A Never-ending Journey

For Connecticut Daughter Andrea Reeves Beebe, the thrill of family research lies in the quest more than the destination.

By Bill Hudgins

Although Ridgefield, Connecticut, is the site of the only inland Revolutionary War battle in the Nutmeg State, it did not have a DAR chapter until two years ago. That was when Andrea Reeves Beebe and several other Drum Hill DAR Chapter members in nearby Wilton founded the Cannon Ridge DAR Chapter.

The National Board of Management recognized the new Cannon Ridge DAR Chapter in December 2021, and the chapter officially debuted in April 2022, just before the 245th anniversary reenactment of the Battle of Ridgefield on April 27, 1777. The new chapter volunteered time and service to the Ridgefield Historical Society and the Keeler Tavern Museum & History Center.

Mrs. Beebe, who retired in 2014 after a career as a high school special education teacher, is the Cannon Ridge DAR Chapter Organizing Regent and was recently elected Chapter Regent. Since its founding, the chapter has grown from 12 members to more than 40.

"The Drum Hill DAR Chapter was so supportive of our forming a new chapter. We are a Lantern Chapter, which is very special," Mrs. Beebe said. The Lantern Chapter designation recognizes chapters that transfer an Organizing Regent and five or more members to organize a new chapter or revitalize an existing chapter. Both



Reenactment of the Battle of Ridgefield

★ ★ ★



the transferring and receiving chapters receive the Lantern designation.

Family history has fascinated Mrs. Beebe since she was a little girl in North Carolina who loved to listen to the family stories adults told and retold after Sunday lunch. She "wondered why they told the same stories over and over" until realizing this was how family lore was preserved and kept alive. "I wish now I could have recorded them."

Although her late grandmother, Lillian Allen Wrigglesworth Palmer, and mother, Lillian Ann Palmer Reeves, were DAR members, Mrs. Beebe did not apply until she retired. She began working on her DAR Application in 2014 and took genealogy courses, which became a milestone decision.

She met Sara Champion, then Registrar for the Drum Hill DAR Chapter, who helped Mrs. Beebe complete her Application while learning more about

genealogical research. Ms. Champion, now Registrar for the Cannon Ridge DAR Chapter, taught Mrs. Beebe how to read a genealogy book that traces the family of John Hoyle, the ancestor she used in her Supplemental Application.

"Sara and I became great friends during this process," Mrs. Beebe said. "She was instrumental in my completing my Application and joining DAR. Without her, none of this would be happening."



Andrea Reeves Beebe and Sara Champion

Researching Her Patriots

Mrs. Beebe was admitted to DAR based on her ancestor John Handley Stratton, whom her mother and grandmother also used in their Applications. Aside from the basics, she has yet to find much information on him. Stratton was born in 1745 in Dale Parish, Chesterfield, Virginia Colony, and died on April 6, 1805, in Cumberland County, Virginia. He married Susan Ann (Douglas) Stratton in 1764 in Dale Parish, and they had a daughter, Anne Stratton Tolar.

He served with the 1st Continental Light Dragoon Regiment, originally formed on June 8, 1776, as the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Troops of Light Horse in the Virginia State Troops. In November 1778, the regiment was assigned to the Southern Department. It was reorganized and redesignated as the 1st Legionary Corps on January 1, 1781, and remained in the Southern Department until disbanded at Winchester, Virginia, on November 15, 1783.

As often happens, Mrs. Beebe's research led to another Patriot ancestor, John Hoyle. He was born in Pennsylvania on June 1, 1740, the youngest child of German emigrant Johannes "Pioneer Peiter" Heyl, whose last name was anglicized to Hoyle.

His family moved to North Carolina, and after the war, he received a land grant of 1,150 acres in Rutherford County for his service in combat and



Johannes "Pioneer Peiter" Heyl's gravestone

supplying soldiers. The homestead still stands and is the oldest remaining home in Gaston County. Mrs. Beebe and her husband, David, visited it last year during a tour of Southern Revolutionary War battlefields.

Hoyle saw action with the Overmountain Men at the June 20, 1780, Battle of Ramsour's Mill in North Carolina, and at the October 7, 1780, Battle of Kings Mountain in South Carolina, a turning point in the Southern Campaign. Both battles were notable because most combatants on both sides were Americans—Patriots fighting Loyalists, family members confronting each other on the battlefields.

Hoyle died on September 1, 1822, and is buried near Newton, North Carolina. He is the namesake of the John Hoyle DAR Chapter, Hickory, North Carolina. After learning about him, Mrs. Beebe became an associate member of that chapter, whose founder, Magnolia Shuford, was also a relative.

"Before I started my research, I didn't know much about the Southern Campaign and how instrumental it was

in bringing about the end of the war," she said. "Now I'm starting to research my father's family, which has a lot of Patriots in it."

Her journey has included meeting many people eager to help her along the way, including a helpful park ranger at Kings Mountain who talked about the many memorials maintained there by the DAR, SAR and other organizations. He also gave her a copy of a timeline of events at the site from the war era to today and informed her of the Hoyle Homestead's existence.

"I keep discovering more and more things, and I know I will never know all the answers. There simply isn't time," Mrs. Beebe said.

She shared a story about marching with her chapter in Ridgefield's annual Memorial Day Parade. Her 3-year-old granddaughter asked if she could march with her. As they walked along the route with people smiling, waving and cheering, her granddaughter looked up and said, "Sissy [her pet nickname for her grandmother], this is really fun."

"I so hope I can pass along the excitement that I feel," Mrs. Beebe said. "Maybe she and my other granddaughters will decide to get involved with Children of the American Revolution." 🌟



Have you walked in the footsteps of your Patriot like Andrea Beebe did?

What were your emotions? What did you learn? Share your story and

experience with the DAR Magazine Committee on the Daughters Online Community (DOC).

DAR Recipe



Chocolate Guinness Stout Cake

With Baileys Cream Cheese Frosting



I have many ancestors who immigrated to America, including several from Ireland who came during the Great Hunger in the late 1840s and settled in New England. One year, while searching for a recipe for a St. Patrick's Day party to honor those ancestors, I found this Chocolate Guinness Stout Cake recipe. Nothing sounded better than the combination of Guinness and Baileys Irish Cream, two things that are often associated with the Emerald Isle. The cake quickly became a favorite among my family and friends, especially enjoyed by members of our son's firehouse in New Haven, Connecticut. I frequently share it with my sister and Daughters at chapter meetings and state society events during the fall and winter. The cake is incredibly indulgent, with a rich and fudgy texture, making it a fantastic dessert after any meal.

— Mary Wood, member of Sarah Whitman Hooker DAR Chapter, West Hartford, Connecticut

IMAGES COURTESY OF MARY WOOD

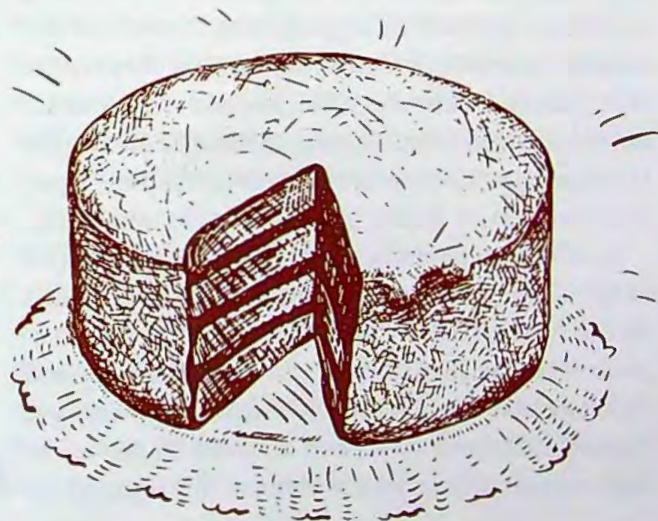
Ingredients

Chocolate Guinness Stout Cake:

- 10 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus more for pan
- 1 cup Guinness Stout beer
- 2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 2 ½ teaspoons baking soda
- ½ teaspoon espresso powder or instant coffee
- ¾ cup sour cream
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups ultra-fine sugar
- ¾ cup unsweetened cocoa powder, plus 2 tablespoons for pan

Baileys Cream Cheese Frosting

- 2 (8-ounce) packages of cream cheese, room temperature
- 2 sticks butter, room temperature
- 4 cups confectioner's sugar
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- ¼ cup Baileys Irish Cream or other Irish cream liqueur



GETTY IMAGES

Instructions

For the cake:

1. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Using parchment paper, cut a round piece to fit the bottom of a 9-inch springform pan and cut strips to fit about the inside, leaving an inch of excess to form a small Elizabethan collar. Spread about 2 tablespoons of butter around the sides of the pan and the bottom. (You can also use a non-stick cooking spray.) Dust with 2 tablespoons of cocoa powder, tap out the excess cocoa powder and set off to the side. (If using cooking spray, omit the dusting.)
2. In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, baking soda and espresso powder, then set off to the side. In a wide saucepan, add 10 tablespoons of butter with the beer. Heat on medium-low until the butter is melted. Once it is melted, stir in the sugar and cocoa powder.
3. Meanwhile, in a separate bowl, whisk together the sour cream, eggs and vanilla extract. Add this mixture to the cocoa/beer mixture and whisk to combine. (This can be done using a standing mixer with the paddle attachment.)
4. Pour the chocolate mixture into the bowl with the flour and stir until incorporated, then pour the chocolate Guinness cake batter into the prepared pan.
5. Bake on the middle rack of your preheated oven for 40 to 45 minutes or until a cake tester or toothpick comes out with only a trace of batter attached.
6. Allow the cake to cool before frosting. Remove the ring around the cake, parchment paper and bottom, and place on a cake server and allow it to cool completely. The cake can be prepared a day ahead of serving. Store covered in fridge.

For the frosting:

1. In a large mixing bowl or standing mixer with whisk attachment, place the two blocks of cream cheese and two sticks of butter. Beat on medium speed until light and fluffy, then add the Baileys Irish Cream liqueur and vanilla extract, mixing until blended. Add in the confectioner's sugar (two cups at a time), mixing on low and then medium after each.
2. Using a cake frosting knife, frost only the top of the cake until it resembles the white froth head on a pint of Guinness. Store the remaining frosting up to a week in the fridge in an airtight container. (It's great on cupcakes, or reserve it for another cake!) Cover and store the cake in the fridge in a cake server until ready to serve.

DAR FOUNDER

Profile



"I am good for any amount of work."

MARY DESHA

DAR Founder



< Portrait of Mary Desha by Aline E. Solomons; 1914; according to the painting's plaque, "Presented by Katherine Montgomery Chapter N.S.D.A.R., other members of the National Society and personal friends."

were Dr. John Randolph and Mary Bracken Curry Desha. She descended from Katherine Montgomery, a dispatch bearer and wife of Isaac Bledsoe, a colonel in the Continental Army. She was the granddaughter of Joseph Desha, a private in the Revolutionary War, a major general in the War of 1812 and governor of Kentucky in 1825. Miss Desha was well-educated and, for a short time, studied at what is now the University of Kentucky.

The effects of the Civil War on border-state Kentucky impoverished her family. When the women were needed to provide an income, Miss Desha and her mother opened a private school where they taught their friends' children French, Latin and mathematics. Several years later, Miss Desha accepted a position in the Lexington public school system until she became a government clerk in Washington, D.C., in the mid-1880s.

In 1888, Miss Desha accepted a teaching position in Sitka, Alaska. She found the living conditions endured by the Alaskan natives unacceptable, and her written protest to the government in Washington resulted in a federal investigation. She taught American and Russian children and received criticism for her teaching methods and curricular content. She enjoyed her

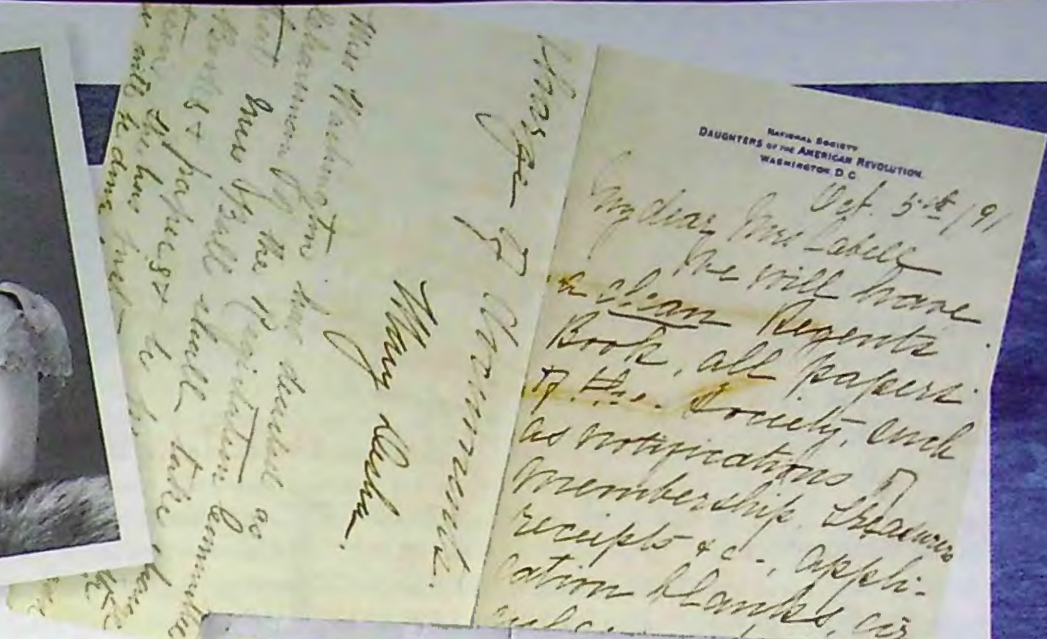
True to her word, this quote from Mary Desha as she first appears in DAR history predicts her energetic commitment to the National Society and reveals her faith in the value of hard work for its own sake. Miss Desha, National Number 4, was a member of Katherine Montgomery DAR Chapter, Washington, D.C.

Miss Desha was born on March 8, 1850, in prosperous, antebellum Lexington, Kentucky. Her parents

NSDAR



Clockwise from left: Portrait photograph of Mary Desha, circa 1891–1894, original glass plate negative part of the C.M. Bell Studio Collection (Library of Congress); letter from Mary Desha to Mary Cabell, dated October 5, 1891; photograph of the First Continental Congress, taken by the studio of Mathew Brady, February 22, 1892.



time in Alaska and often commented on its natural beauty. Calling the territory “magnificent beyond description,” Miss Desha wrote that she did not “believe heaven [would] be any more beautiful.”

She returned to Lexington in 1889, only to soon accept another post in Washington as a clerk in the pension office. She later worked as a copyist in the Bureau of Indian Affairs and continued in the civil service until her death. Miss Desha remained unmarried all her life and, like many single women in Washington in this era, lived in the city’s boardinghouses. According to the city directory, Miss Desha moved several times during the DAR’s early years and was partial to the portion of the city north of the Capitol building.

Founding the National Society

In July 1890, after reading about a meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) in *The Washington Post*, Mary Smith Lockwood wrote a letter to the newspaper, asking, “Were there no mothers in the Revolution; no dames as well as sires whose memories should be commemorated?”

In response to Mrs. Lockwood’s letter, SAR organizer William O. McDowell called for the women of America to form their own national society. Miss Desha was one of only six women who replied to Mr. McDowell’s suggestion. Present at the meeting at Ellen Hardin Walworth’s home on August 9, 1890, she, along with Mrs. Walworth and Eugenia Washington, completed preliminary work on the *DAR Constitution*. They decided that DAR would be a national organization, and they would ask First Lady Caroline Scott Harrison to serve as the first President General. (Read more about Mrs. Harrison in the May/June 2023 issue of *American Spirit*.)

The women proposed a Board of Managers with Miss Desha as Chairman, Mrs. Walworth as Secretary General and Miss Washington as Registrar General.

Miss Desha was elected Vice President General on October 11, 1890. Later, she was the first Recording Secretary General, Vice President General in Charge of Organization, Surgeon General, Corresponding Secretary General and Honorary Vice President General.

A Life of Faithful Service

In 1898, Miss Desha was appointed Assistant Director of the DAR Hospital Corps under Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee. (Read more about Dr. McGee in the March/April 2023 issue of *American Spirit*.) In that capacity, she helped process the applications of more than 4,500 women who aspired to serve as nurses in the Spanish-American War. She also led the supply of the 12 aprons provided to each nurse sent to the U.S. Army by direct endorsement of DAR.



She never missed a night of work during her entire five months of service for the Hospital Corps. Leaving her office every day at 4 p.m., Miss Desha worked at the Corps office every evening until midnight. Miss Desha's interest in the nurses did not end with the war. With the consent of the National Society, she sent to each chapter an appeal for contributions toward the monument to the Spanish-American War nurses, dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery in 1905.

Mary Desha died suddenly on January 29, 1911, likely of a stroke. Her fellow Daughters honored her memory with the first memorial service and the only funeral service ever held in Memorial Continental Hall. Eulogizing her, Dr. McGee said, "When you crown the Founder, who has so lately passed from us, with a wreath of laurel, may one leaf of it represent her efforts in promoting the saving of lives of our soldiers in the Spanish War."

Miss Desha was remembered for her absolute devotion to the *DAR Constitution and Bylaws of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution* and for her faithful, indefatigable service to the organization from when she read Mary Lockwood's letter in *The Washington Post* until her death. At the memorial service held in Memorial Continental Hall during the 20th Continental Congress, Mrs. Lockwood said, "She worked hard, and if there is any picture in my mind it is of Mary Desha with a bundle of papers in her hand that pertained to the Daughters of the American Revolution." 🌿



What is a Founders Medal?

In 1995, the NSDAR created the Founders Medal, awarded to individuals who have unselfishly given their talents, time and themselves to their community, state or country—much like the four women who founded the National Society.

The Founders Medal can be awarded to any individual—not just DAR members. If DAR members are considered for the medal, it must be for a cause unrelated to DAR activities.

The Four Founders Medals

Eugenia Washington Medal for Heroism: This medal honors a civilian (age 21 or older) who has displayed outstanding qualities of courage and valor.

Mary Desha Medal for Youth: This medal honors a child or young adult (age 21 or younger) for outstanding service to community, state or country through service and leadership in activities such as conservation, scouting, church, or community, state or national organizations. Academic achievement is not a consideration for the award.

Ellen Hardin Walworth Medal for Patriotism: This medal honors an adult (age 21 or older) who displays extraordinary patriotism through faithful and meritorious service to community, state or nation.

Mary Smith Lockwood Medal for Education: This medal honors an individual who has shown outstanding achievement in promoting education outside the formal education process, such as teaching English as a second language or improving literacy for adults.

Note From the Editor: This profile of Mary Desha is an adaptation of the profile in *Wide Blue Sash*.





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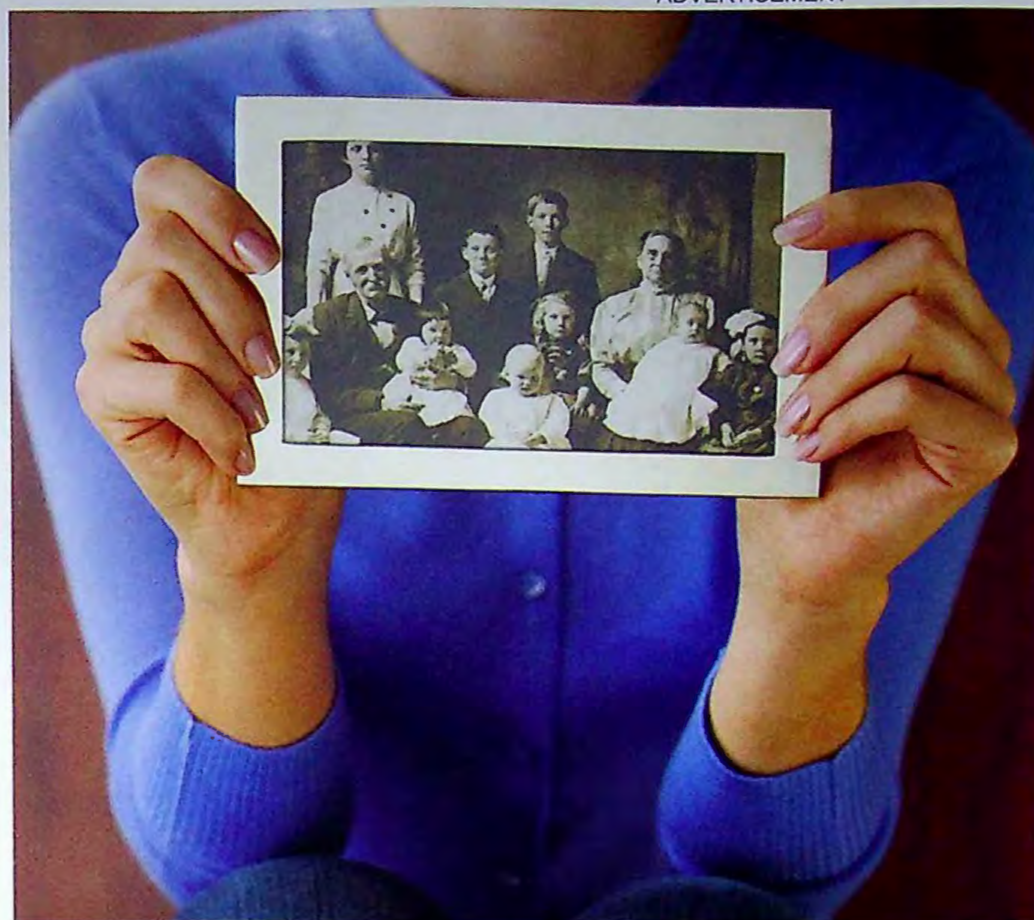
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DO YOU HAVE A REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOT IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?



Consider membership in the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), a volunteer women's service organization that honors and preserves the legacy of our Patriot ancestors. Nearly 250 years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today.

As a member of the DAR, you can continue this legacy by actively promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing America's future through better education for children.

Preserving the
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www.dar.org
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Who is eligible for membership?

Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a Patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. DAR volunteers are willing to provide guidance and assistance with your first step into the world of genealogy.

How is 'Patriot' defined?

DAR recognizes Patriots not only as soldiers, but also anyone who contributed to the cause of American freedom. To find out if your ancestor is recognized by the DAR as a Revolutionary Patriot, use the request form available online. Visit **www.dar.org** and click on "Membership."

How many members does the National Society have?

DAR has nearly 190,000 members in nearly 3,000 chapters worldwide, including chapters in 14 foreign countries and one territory. Since its founding in 1890, DAR has admitted more than 1 million members.

How can I find out more?

Go to **www.dar.org** and click on "Membership." There you will find helpful instructions, advice on finding your lineage and a Prospective Member Information Request Form. Or call (202) 879-3224 for more information on joining this vital, service-minded organization.

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